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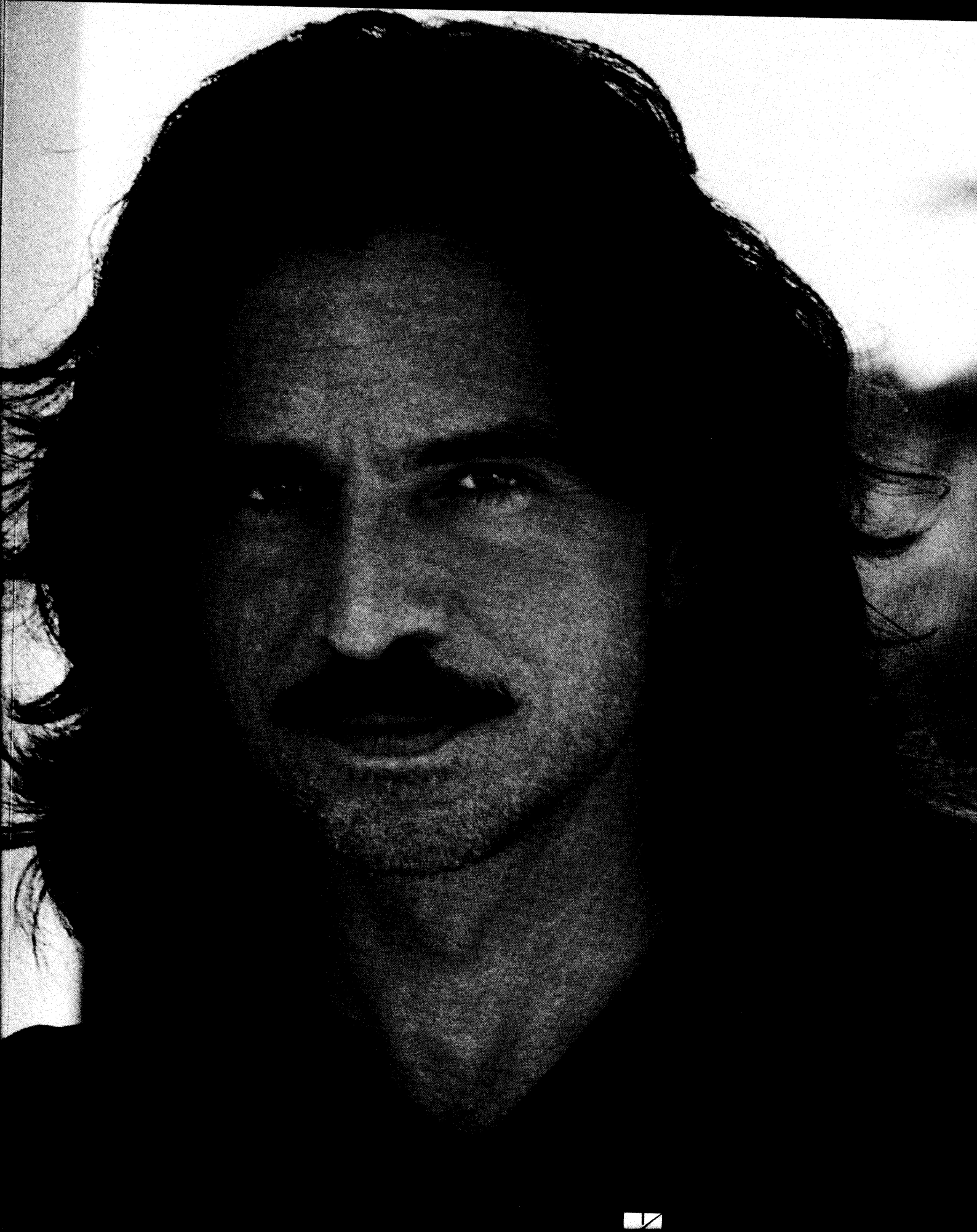
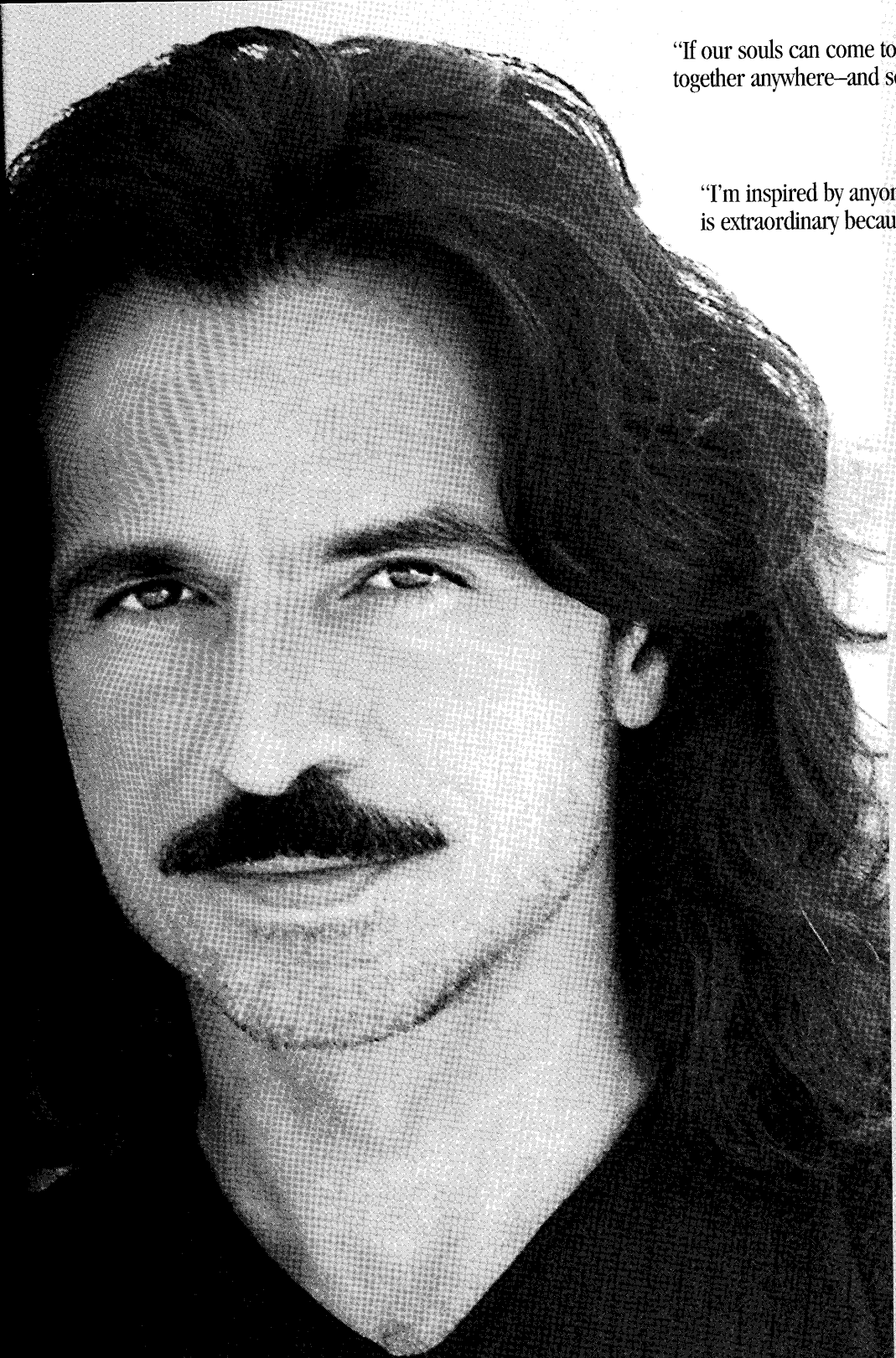
YANNI ETHNICITY



YANNI ETHNICITY



"If our souls can come together in the music, they can come together anywhere–and so can we." —Yanni

"I'm inspired by anyone who has accomplished something that is extraordinary because it shows that anything is possible."
—Yanni

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ANNI BIOGRAPHY

ni was born into a picturesque seaside village that one ever gave thought to leaving and is now wn in every corner of the globe. Yanni is, without ubt, a musical phenomenon, one of those rare sts whose music defies borders and boundaries – se music speaks to people of all races, all ons. And there is more than ample evidence to port such statements.

many artists have become the favored compos- f every Olympic broadcast for the past decade? -out Radio City Music Hall for ten dates? Played ne shadow of the Taj Mahal, the Forbidden City the Parthenon? Toured China and more than ty other nations? Had a TV special seen in 65 ntries by half a billion people, was one of the top traising artists of all time for PBS, and released t became the #2 best-selling live concert video? also mounted the #1-ranked concert tour for irst half of 1998.

ni is an artist that crosses all demographics in his eal. Recently he returned to PBS with a new tele- n special, Live At Royal Albert Hall, London, ring not only a spectacular concert appearance is historic venue, but also the first glimpse into family home in Greece and recording studio orida.

n Records released *Ethnicity* in February, his album and third on Virgin. Extending the "One d, One People" philosophy that has been the nark of his career, *Ethnicity* offers an upbeat ction of tracks that pulse with the rhythms and es of cultures around the globe. Its instrumenta- is equally diverse: from the aboriginal depth of ustralian didgeridoo to the haunting tone of the enian duduk – from the Celtic-flavored violin to ercussive plunk of the Indian tabla – the album s with international flavor. The melodic sensibil- f the album is unmistakably Yanni.

ny of the world's cultures and musical genres are esented on this album. It has a lot of ethnic color other words, it has ethnicity," says Yanni. nicity has to do with race and culture, and – in way I use it for this album – the color and beauty multicultural society. You can be proud of your age and still be part of a world community."

element distinguishing *Ethnicity* from previous ms *is the extensive use of human voices, not only* arias and group chants, but also bona fide s, a rare departure for the artist. "The Promise," for example, is an adaptation of an earlier composition, "Secret Vows," featuring lyrics from longtime friend Pamela McNeill and brilliantly sung by Alfreda Gerald, a member of Yanni's Tribute tour. The album's final track reflects his own cultural heritage with a traditional and very beautiful Greek island folk song, "Jivaeri."

After a five-year break from touring, Yanni began an ambitious 2003/04 world tour on March 1, at Mandalay Bay Resort in Las Vegas, featuring many of his new compositions and spotlighting the talents of solo virtuoso musicians the world over, along with his symphony orchestra. Miramax Books published Yanni's autobiography, *Yanni In Words*, a story that spans his fascinating and inspirational life from his childhood in Greece to his college years in Minnesota – to his success as an international superstar. The memoir, written in collaboration with David Rensin, also includes deeply personal details including his intense nine-year relationship with actress Linda Evans. It became a New York Times best-seller in its first week of release.

"I've been asked to write a book on many occasions but I was always focused first and foremost on my music and my career," said Yanni. "For the past few years I've had more of an opportunity to think deeply about life . . . I have tasted and felt so many things in my life and been welcomed all around the world. I have surpassed the wildest dreams I ever had as a child. I thought that now was the right time to talk about it. What better reason to write a book?"

Yanni has always charted a solitary and distinctive path. A champion swimmer and self-taught pianist with the gift of perfect pitch, he left the comforts of Kalamata, Greece, on the spectacular shores of the deep blue Mediterranean, and then began to fashion his own kind of American success story, later to become an international success story.

After graduating from the University of Minnesota with a B.A. in psychology, after trading the Grecian sunshine for frosty winters, he would seek a life in music, though he could not read a note and wrote wholly original works that, then and now, defy categorizing. From the beginning, he operated with a simple creed: a faith in hard work and keeping an open mind.

Yanni's first Grammy-nominated album was *Dare To Dream* (1992), which produced the vocal single "Aria," popularized by an award-winning British Airways commercial. His following album, *In My Time*, a gentler collection of piano-focused pieces, was also nominated for a Grammy Award and attained Platinum status.

In 1994 Yanni achieved a personal triumph when he returned to his Greek homeland and recorded an album at the 2,000-year-old Herod Atticus Theatre in Athens. The result, *Yanni Live At The Acropolis*, would be a sensation. It has almost continuously remained on the charts since its release, sold more than seven million copies worldwide, earned more than 35 platinum and gold albums, and has risen to become one of the best-selling music videos of all time.

How to follow the unprecedented success of *Live At The Acropolis?* By becoming the first major Western artist ever to perform at India's Taj Mahal and China's Forbidden City, resulting in the multi-platinum album *Tribute*. This is an artist who invested millions of dollars into the project before a single sound was recorded, whose organization mounted a near biblical effort with the regional government of Uttar Pradesh to improve roads and build two bridges in order that the flood plains surrounding the Taj Mahal could be transformed for three historic concerts beneath one of the world's greatest wonders. While allowing India's citizens to see a musical performance in front of the country's signature structure, *Tribute* ultimately led to three million dollars in donations to a Taj preservation fund. The recording of *Tribute* proceeded to China, where Yanni staged a new historic feat at another of the world's great architectural achievements, the Forbidden City. Between India and China, Yanni played to a collective audience of 250 million people.

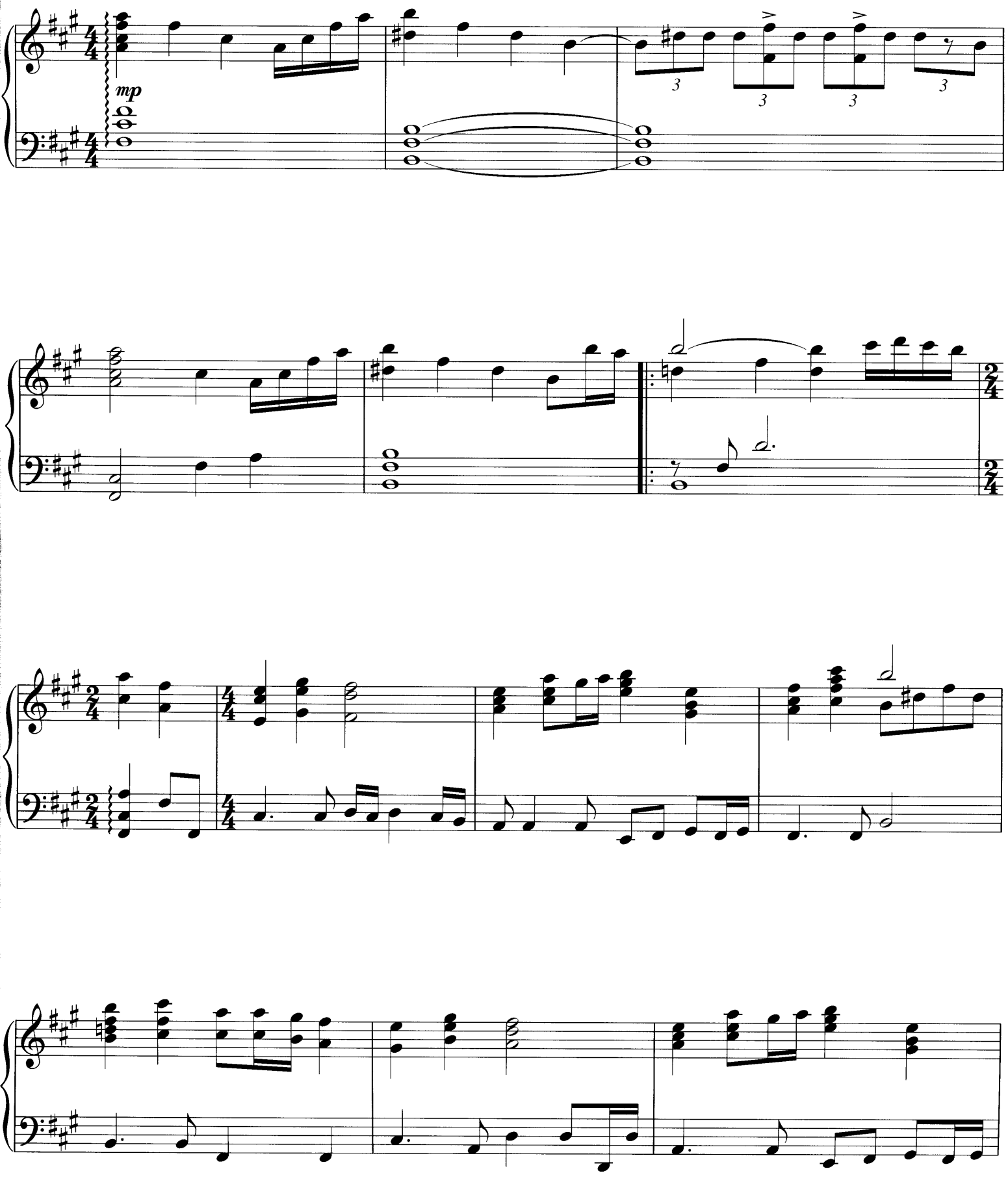
In 2000 Yanni released his first studio album in seven years, *If I Could Tell You*, an introspective and deeply personal project which came in the wake of a two-year sabbatical, a move to the east coast of the U.S., and other changes which refocused his life and life's work.

"Music," says Yanni, "is an incredibly direct language. It bypasses logic and speaks directly to your soul." It is this notion that inspired the boy who began his musical career by giving recitals before family members in a seaside village, and who has since been communicating on a global level that few of his peers can match.

RITES OF PASSAGE

Composed by YANNI

Moderately



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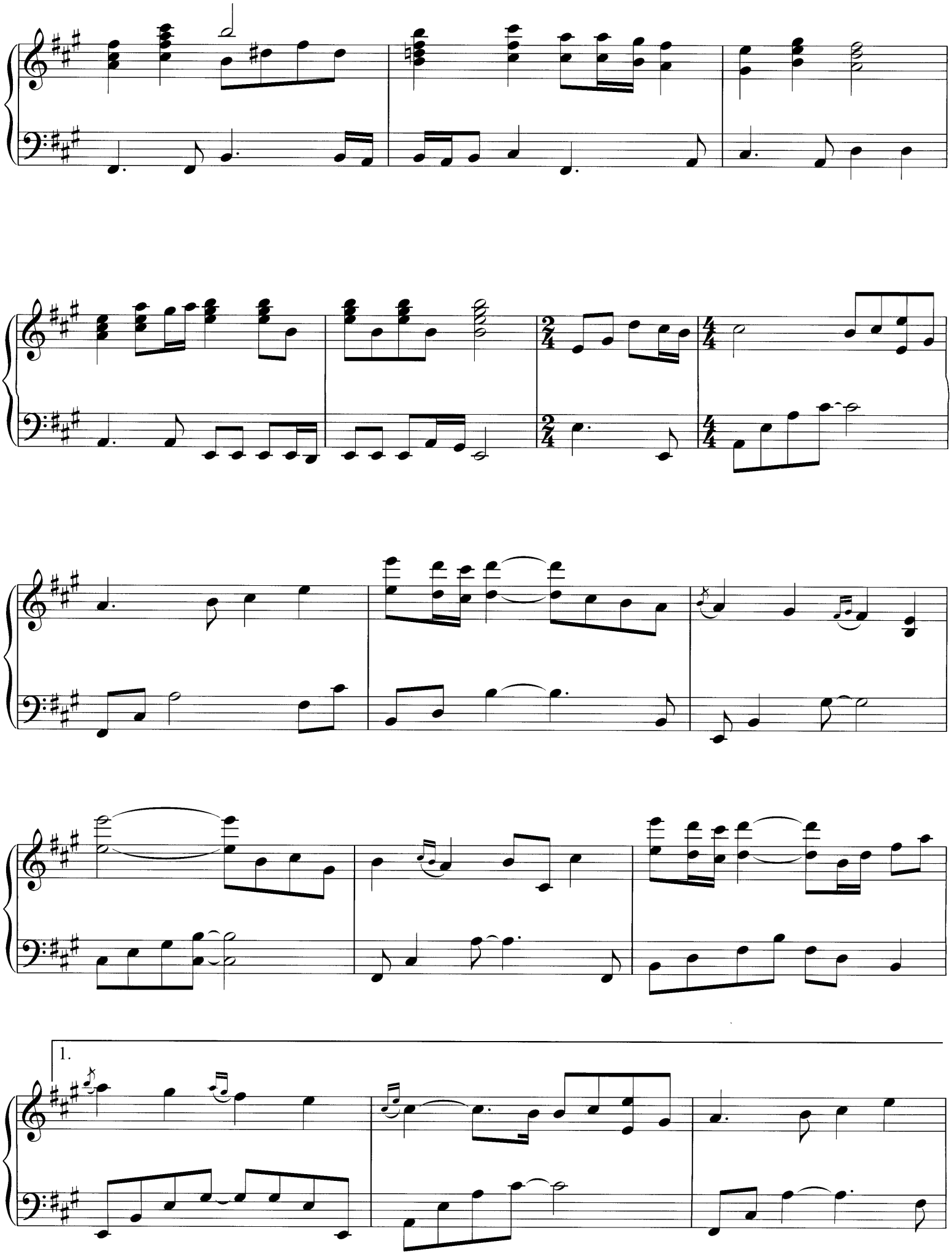
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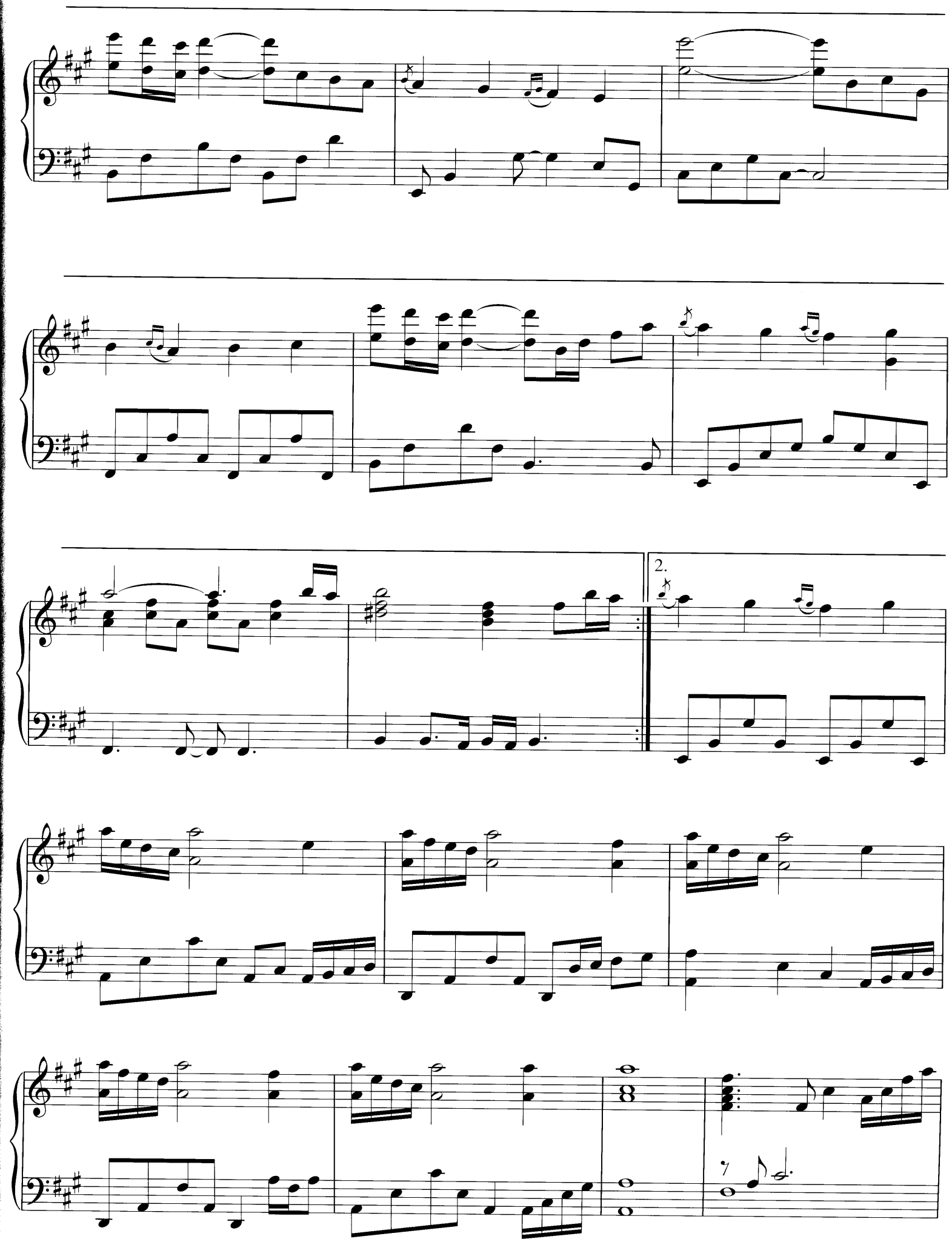
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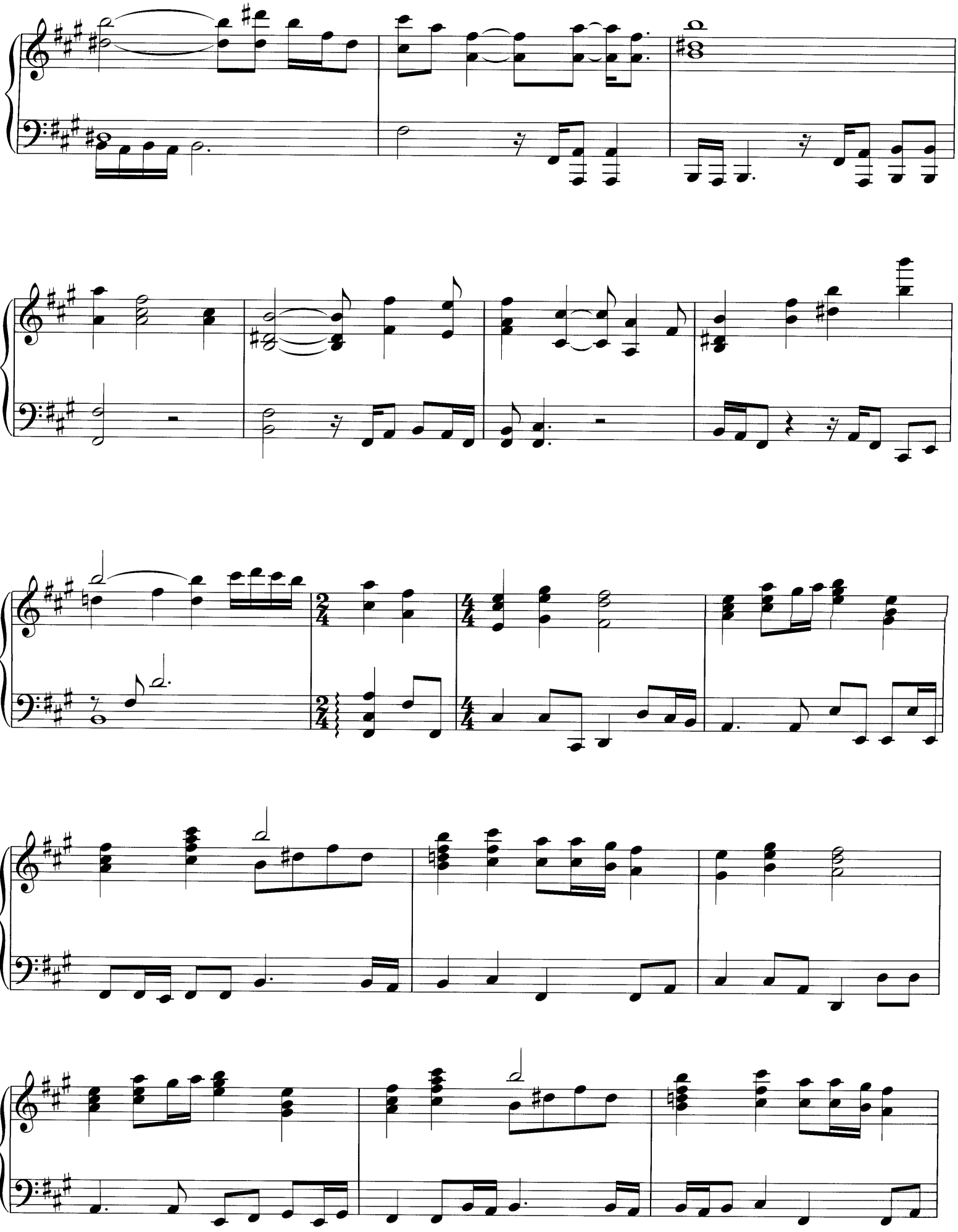

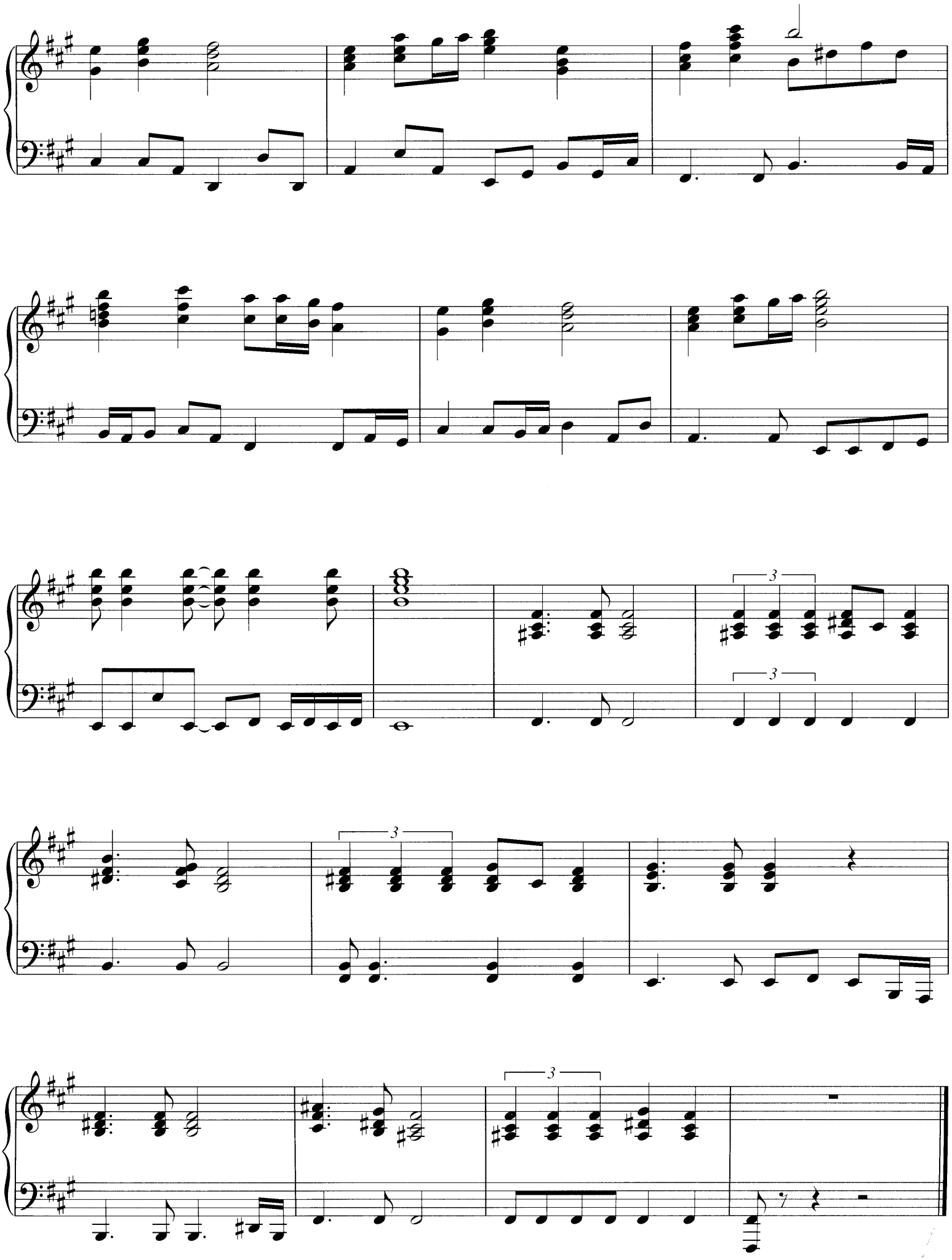
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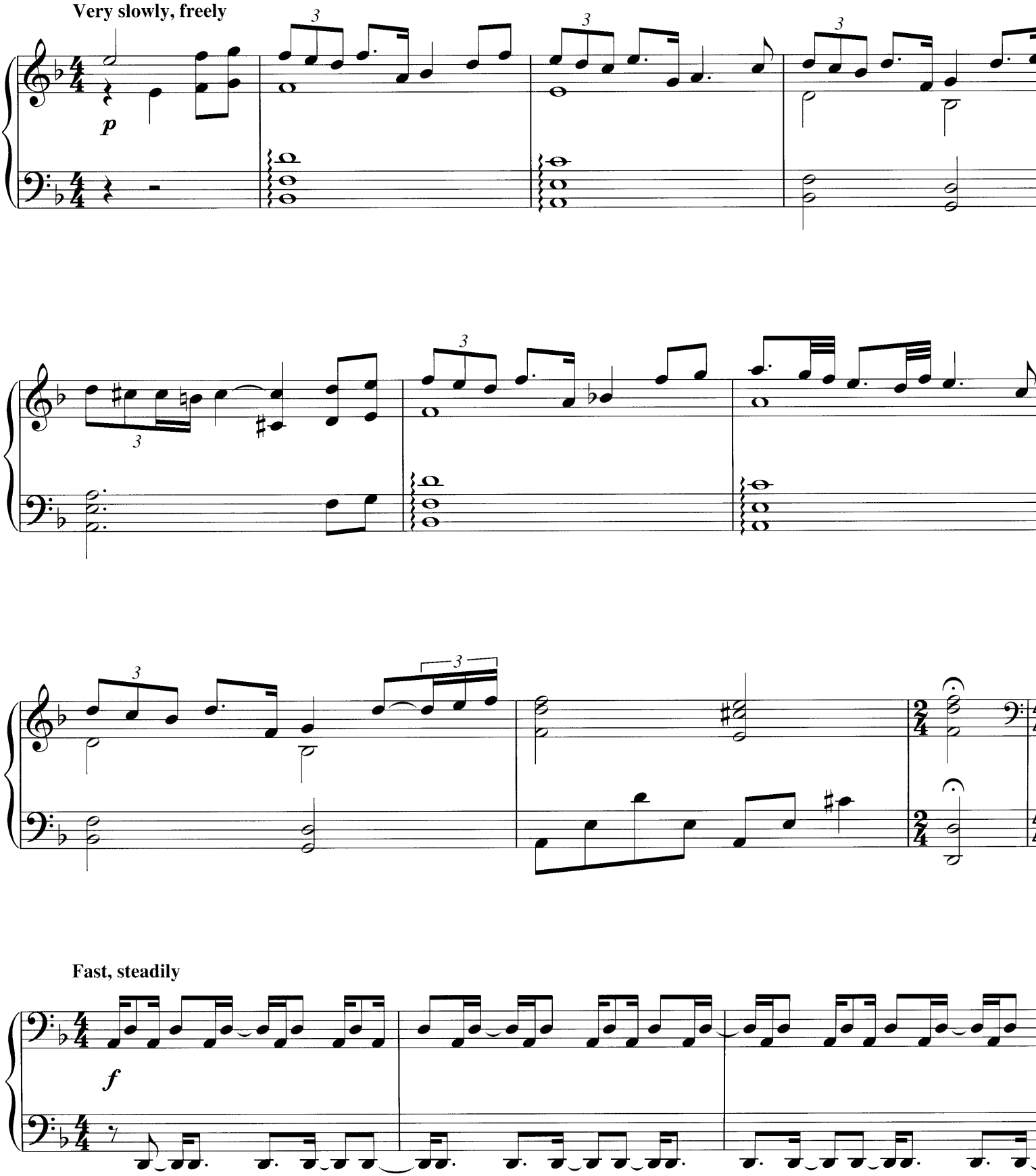
FOR ALL SEASONS

Composed by YANN



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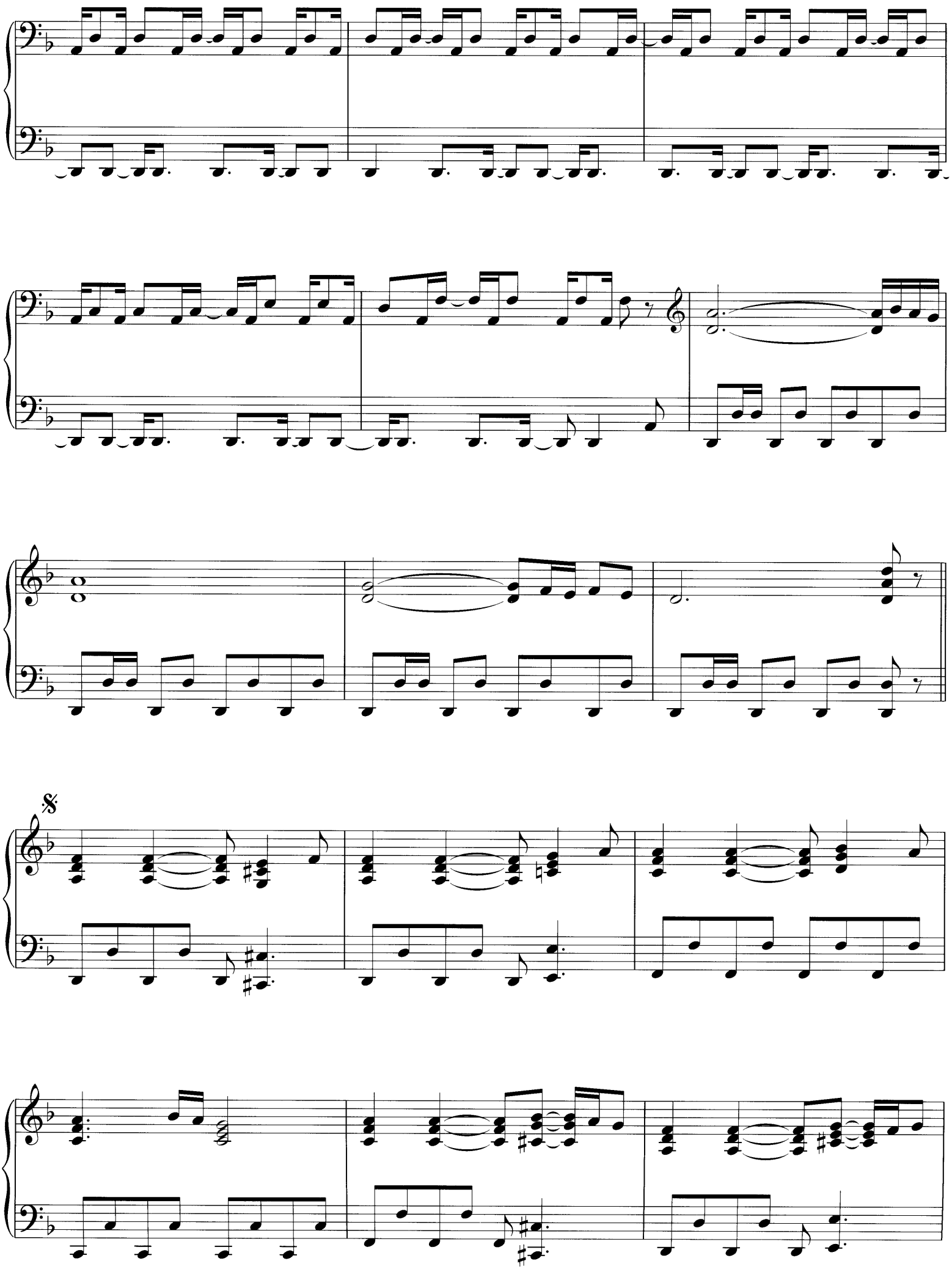
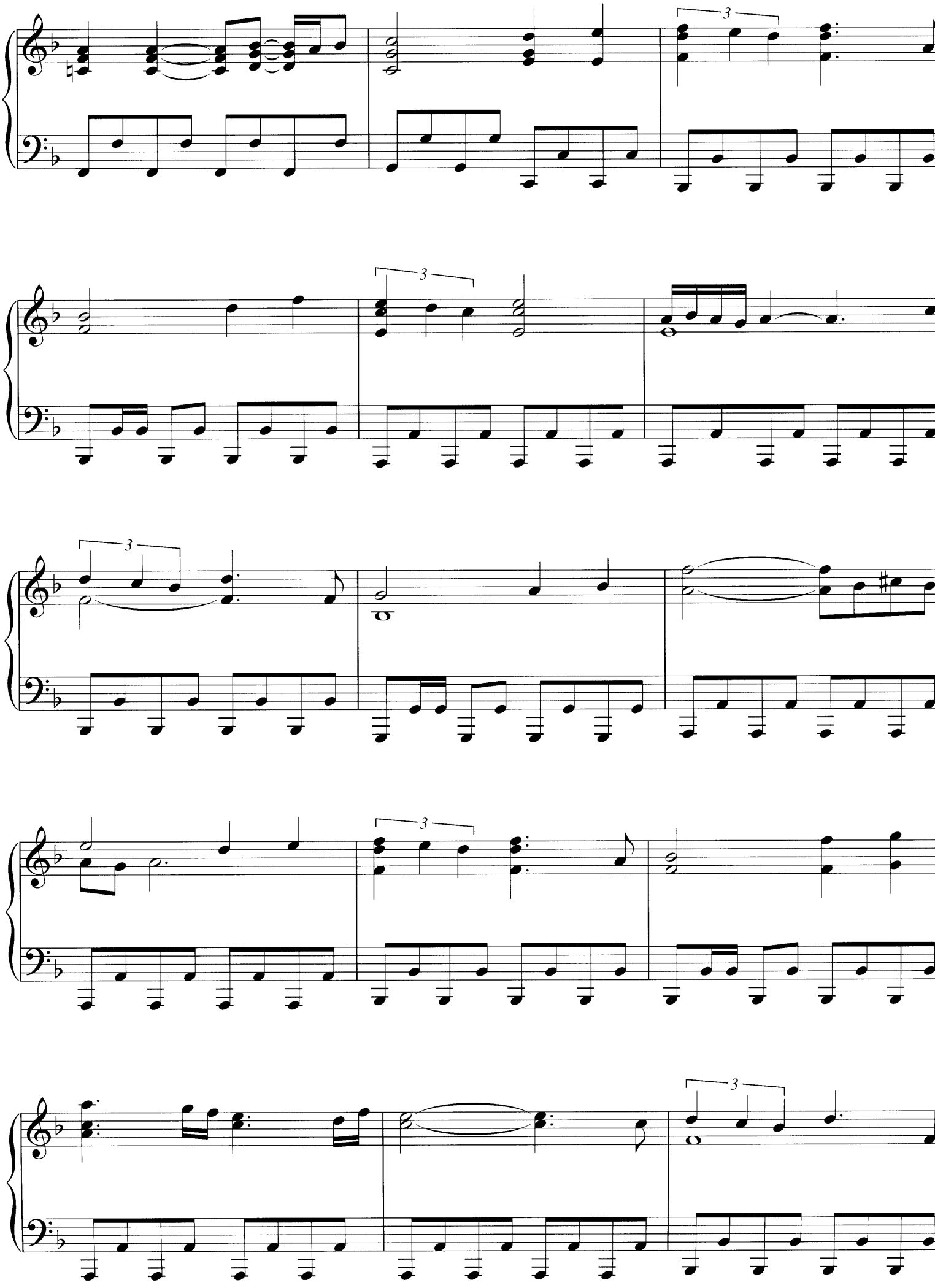
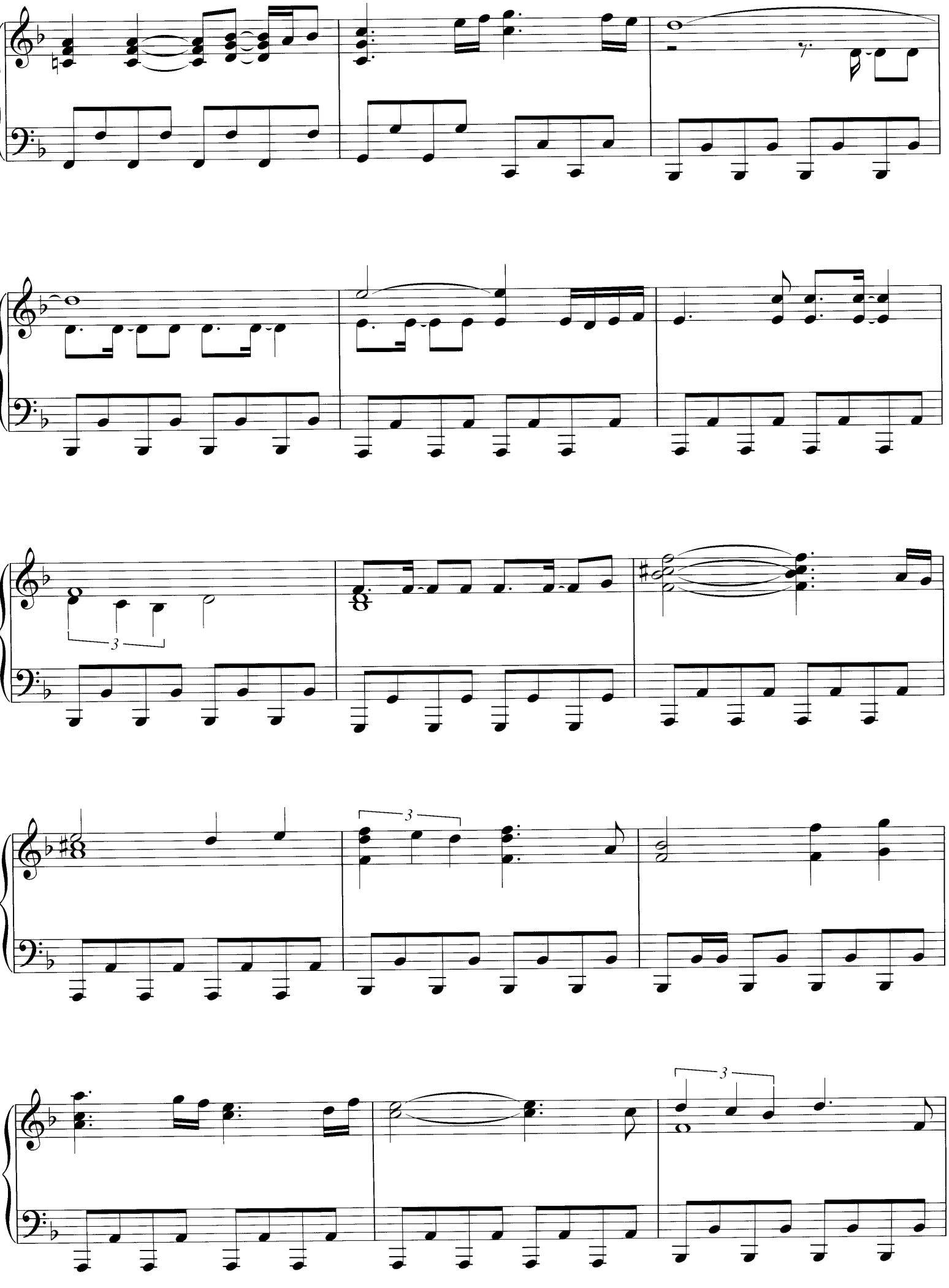
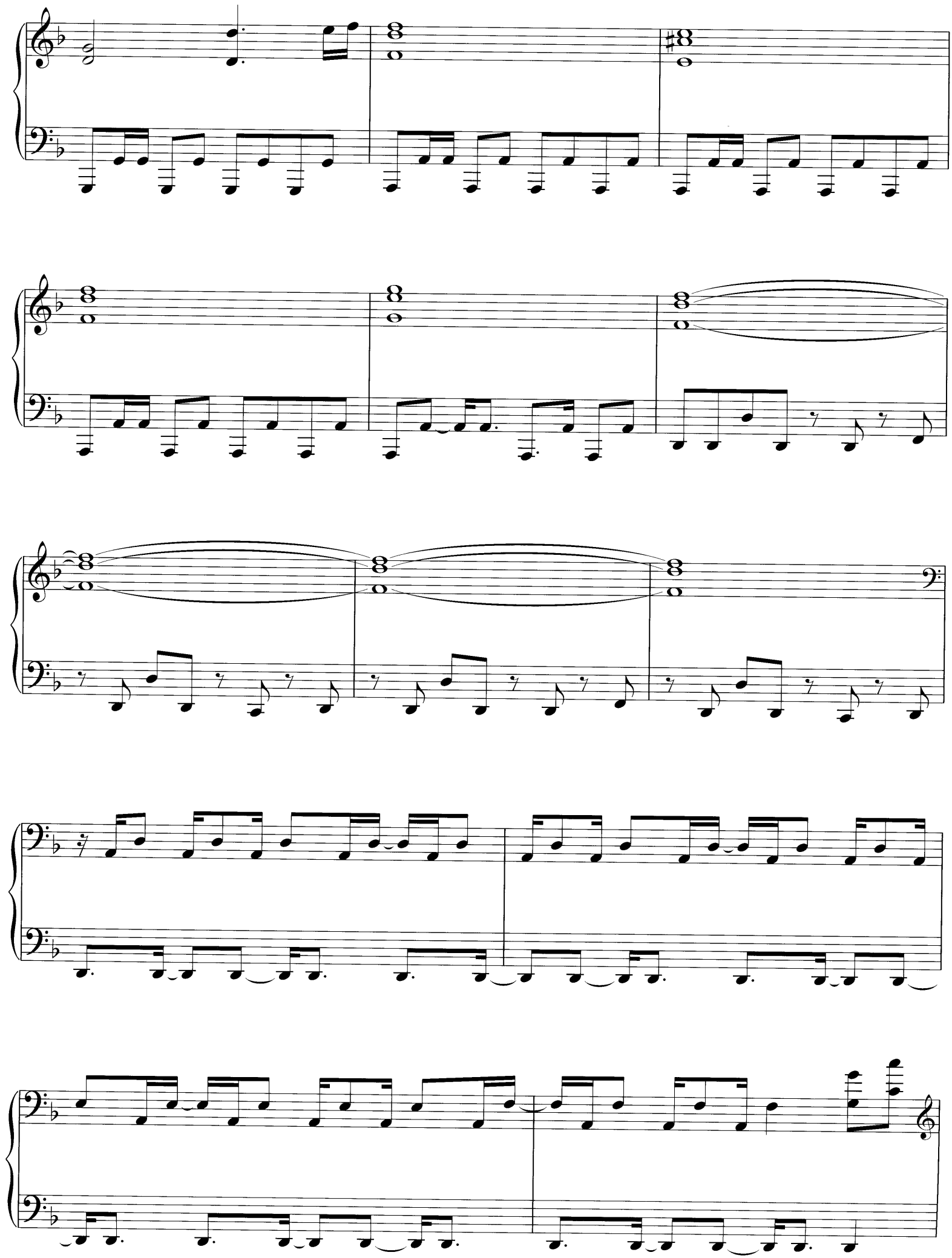
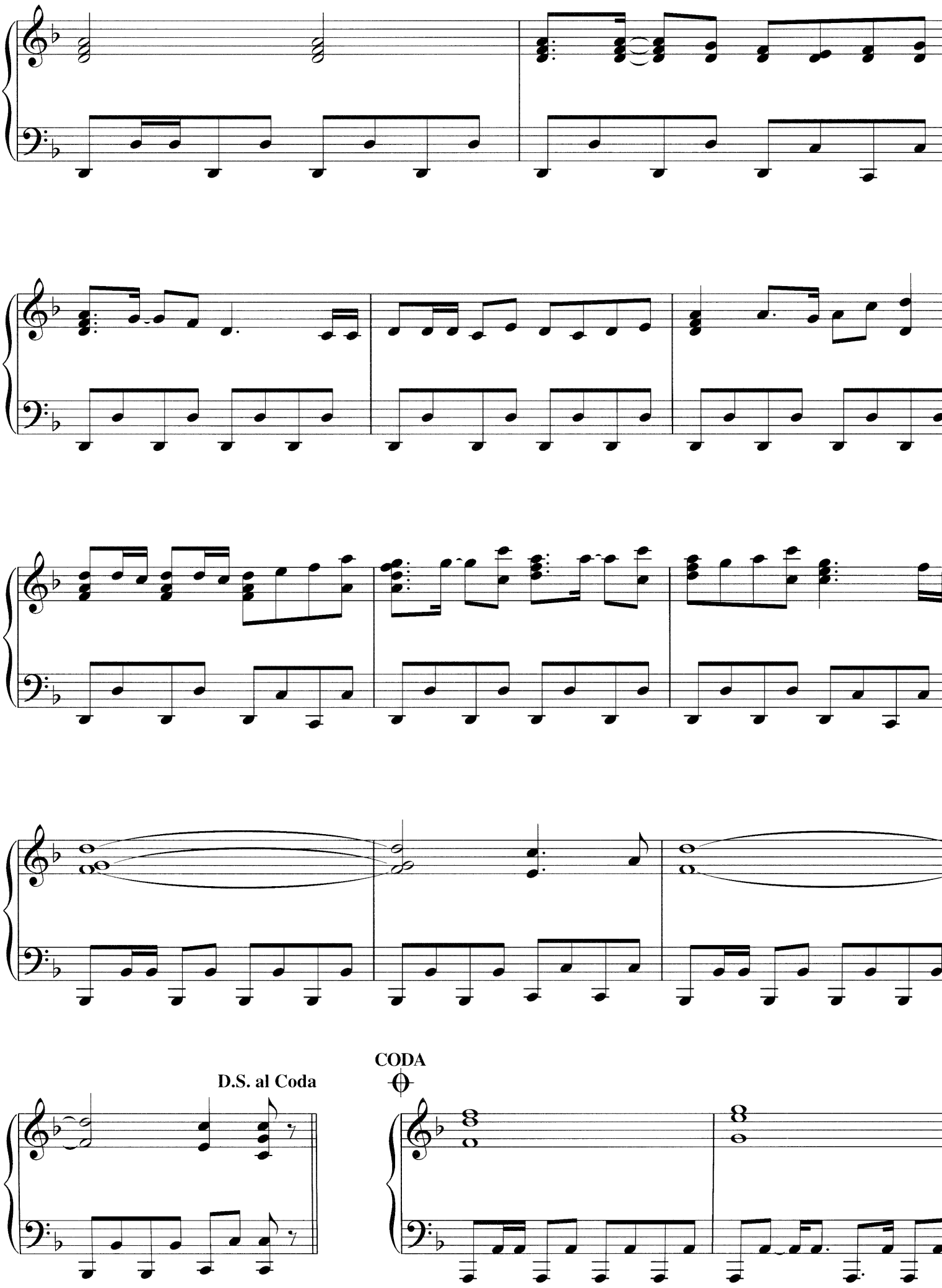


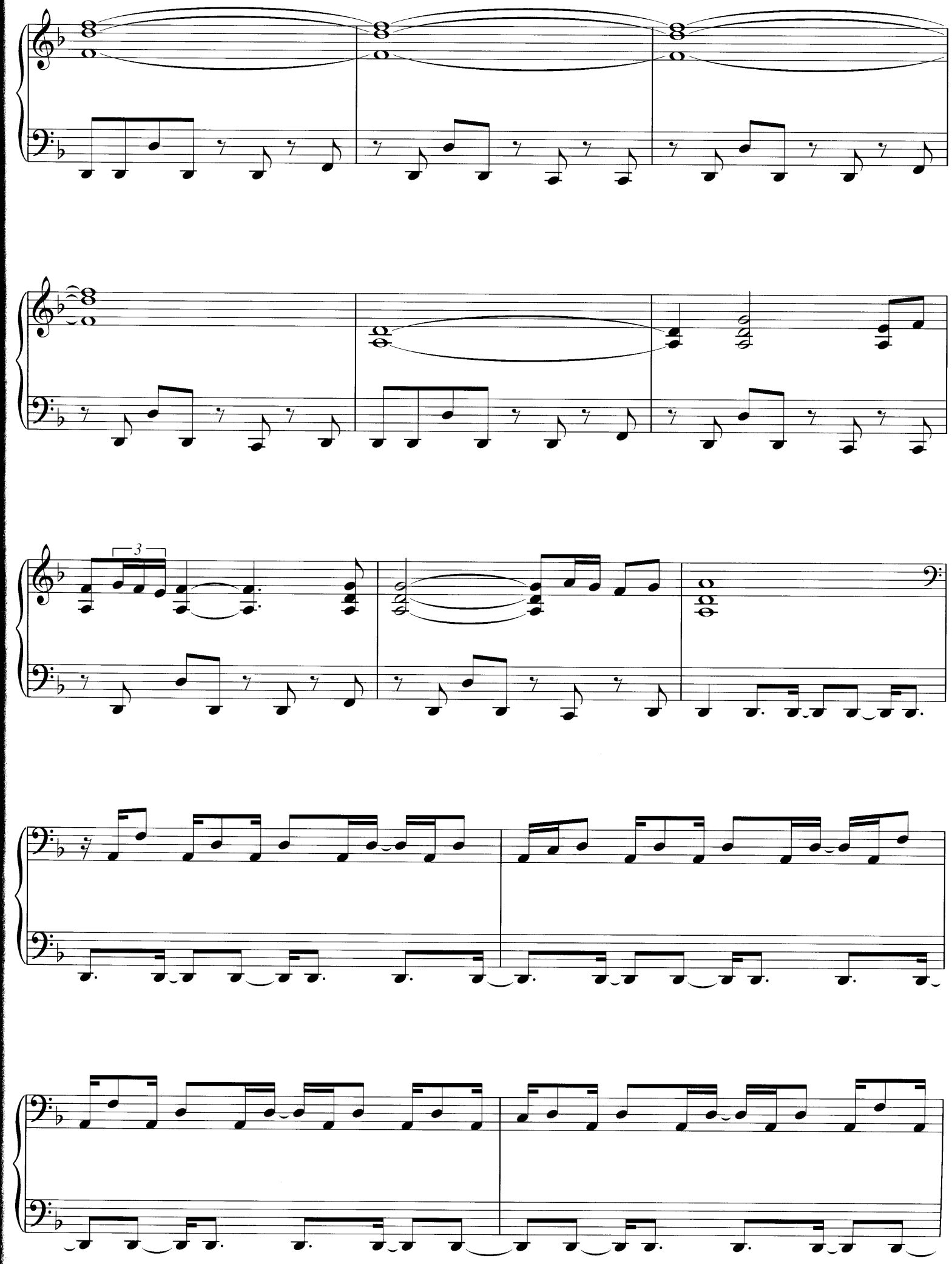


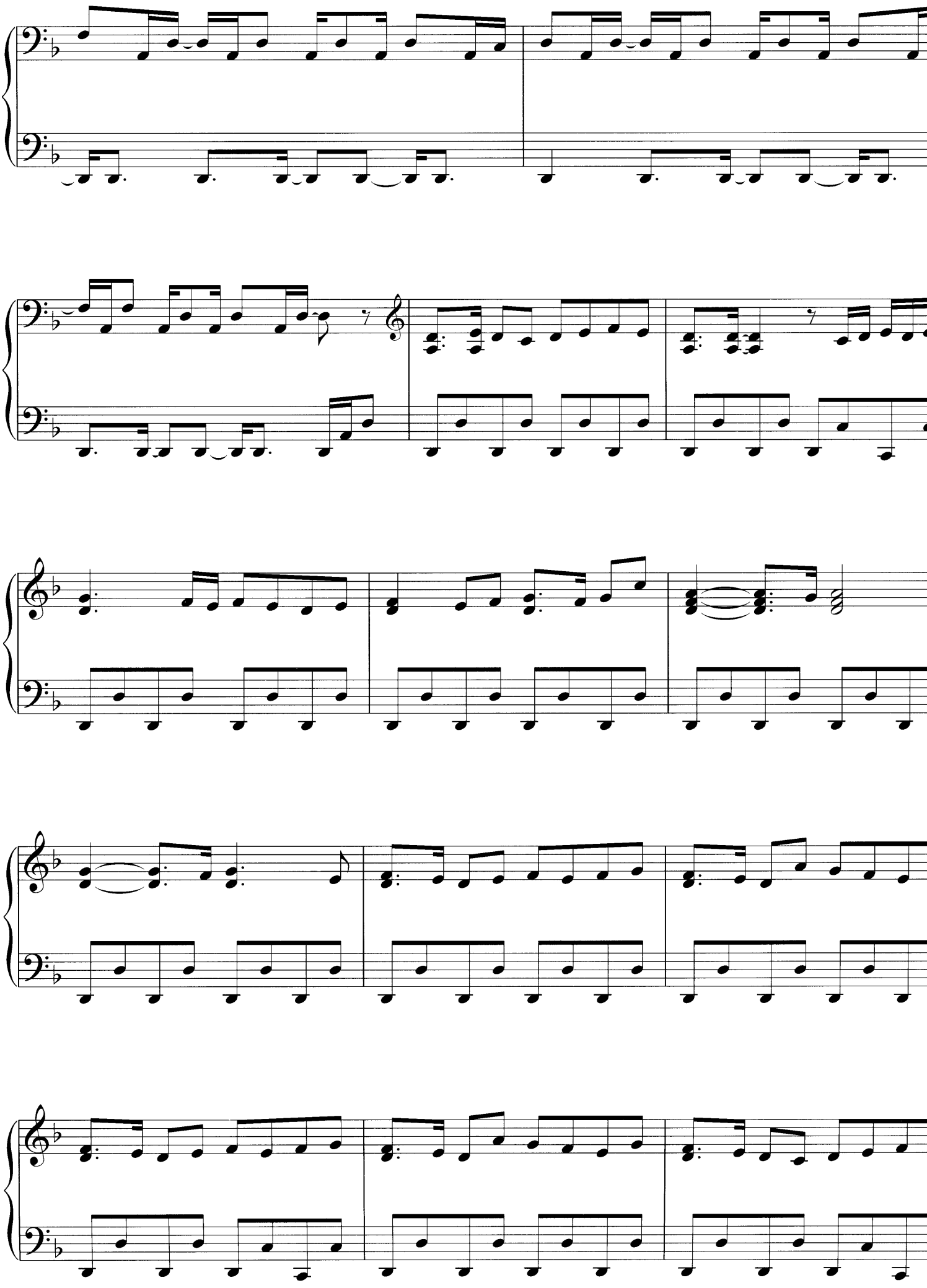
To Coda

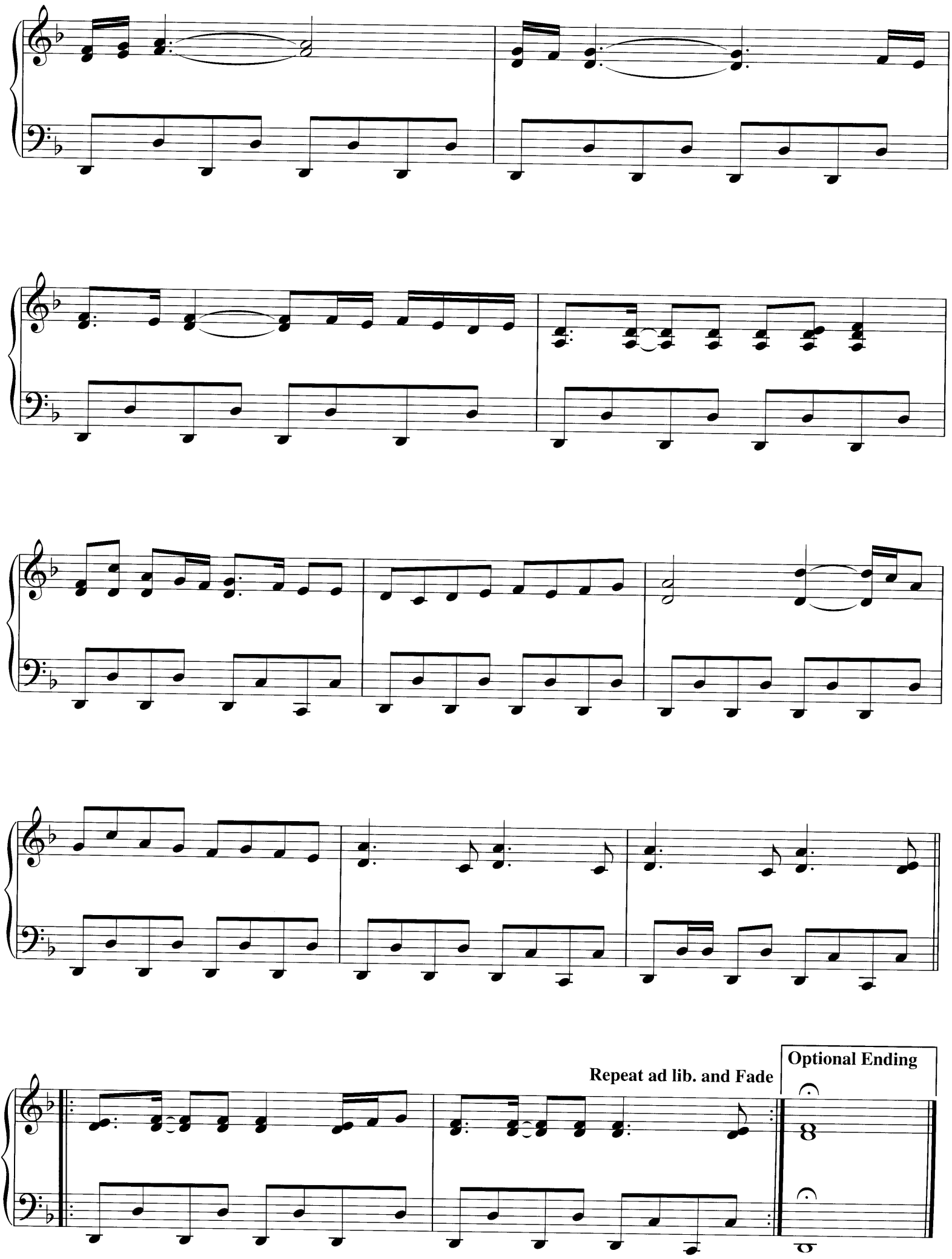





D.S. al Coda
CODA



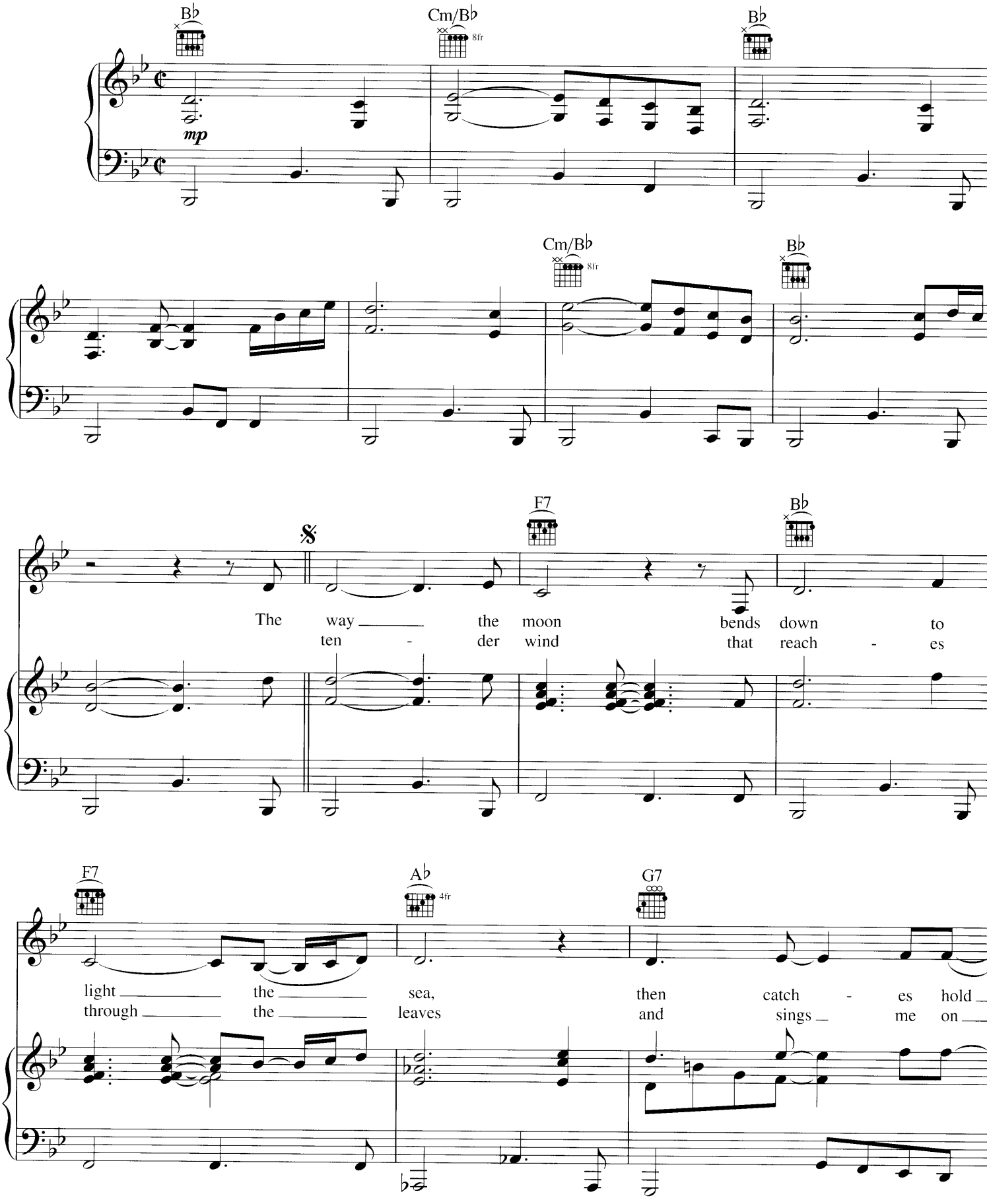



Repeat ad lib. and Fade
Optional Ending

THE PROMISE

Composed by YANN
Lyrics by PAMELA McNEIL

Moderately slow, in 2



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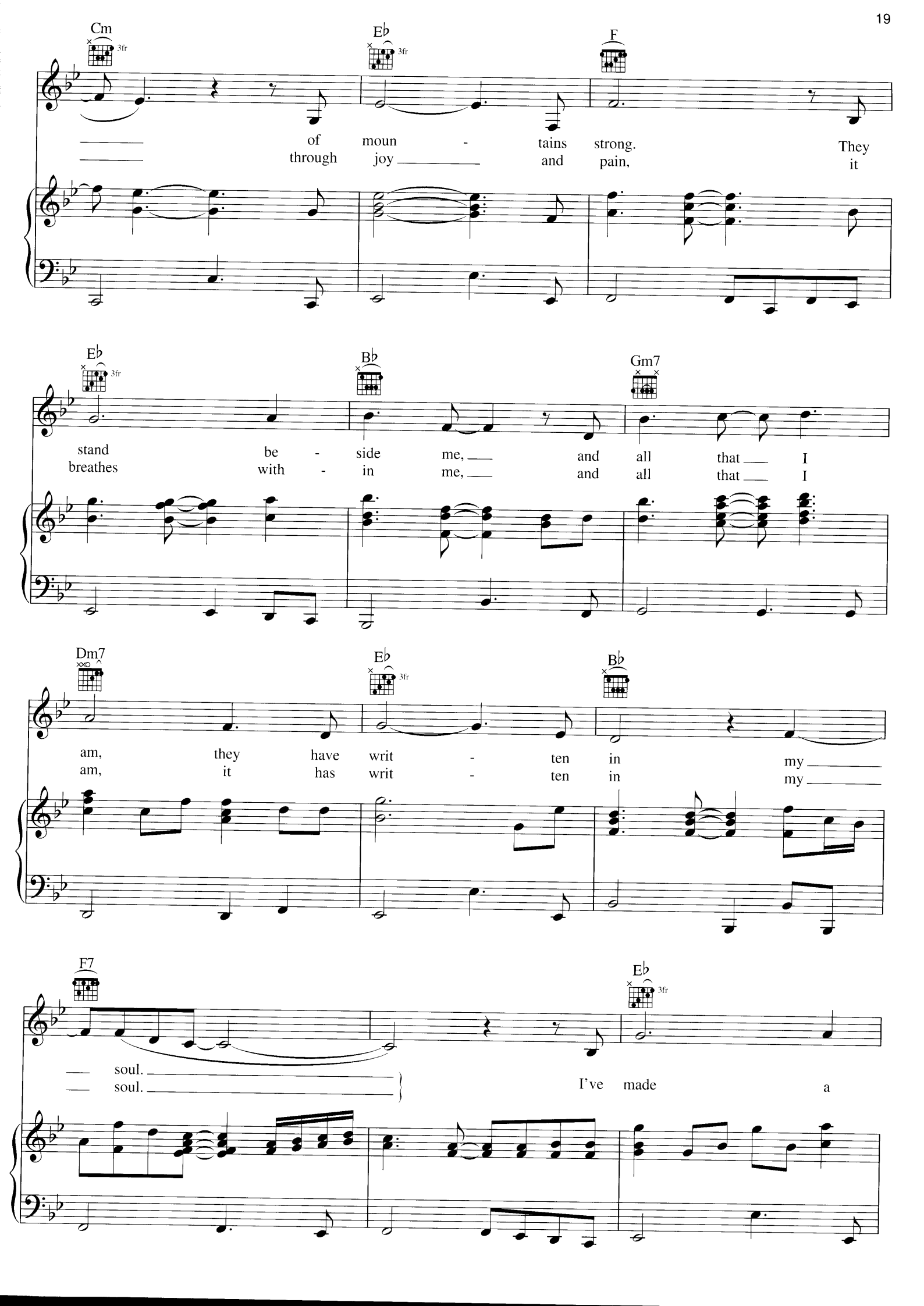
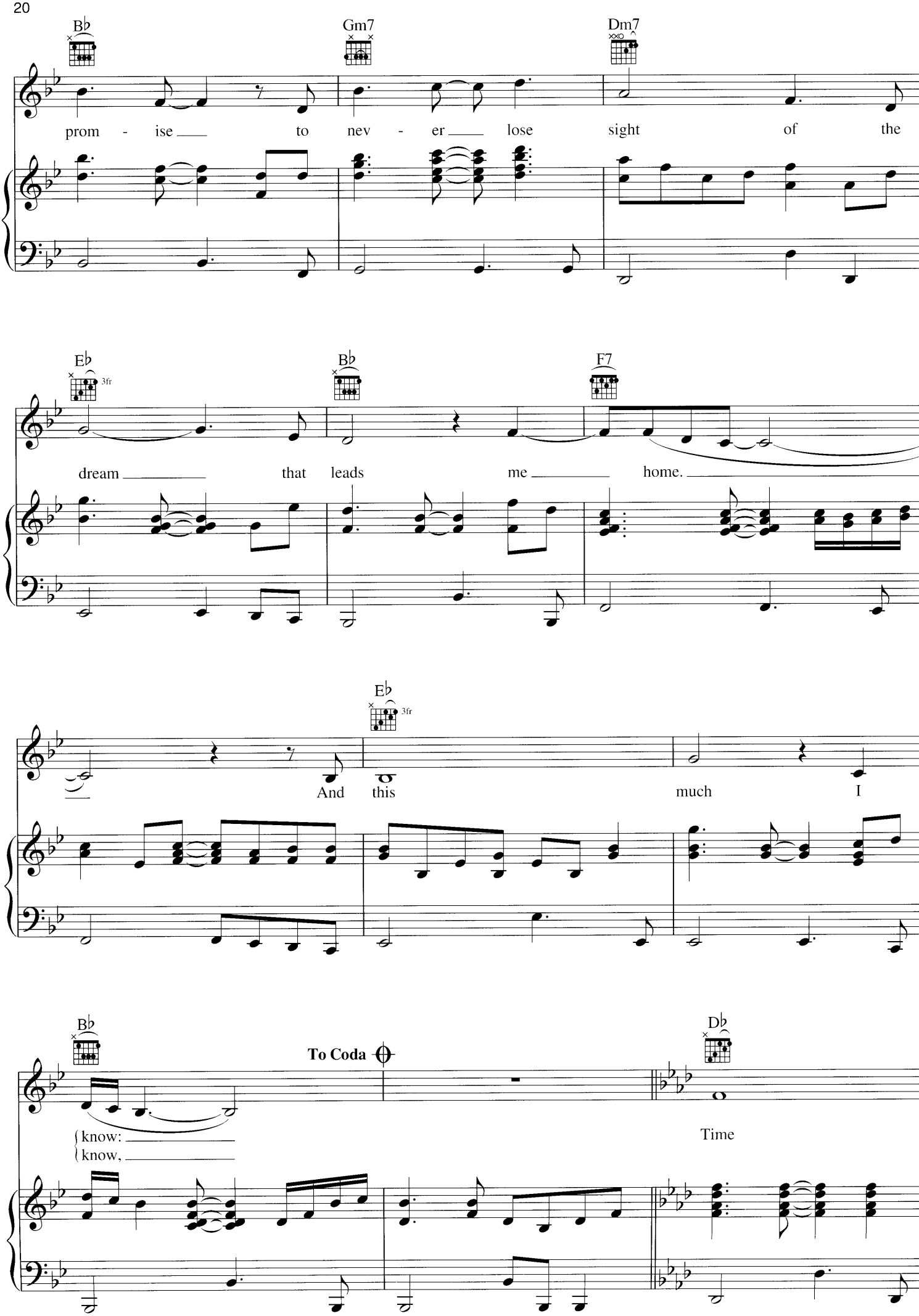
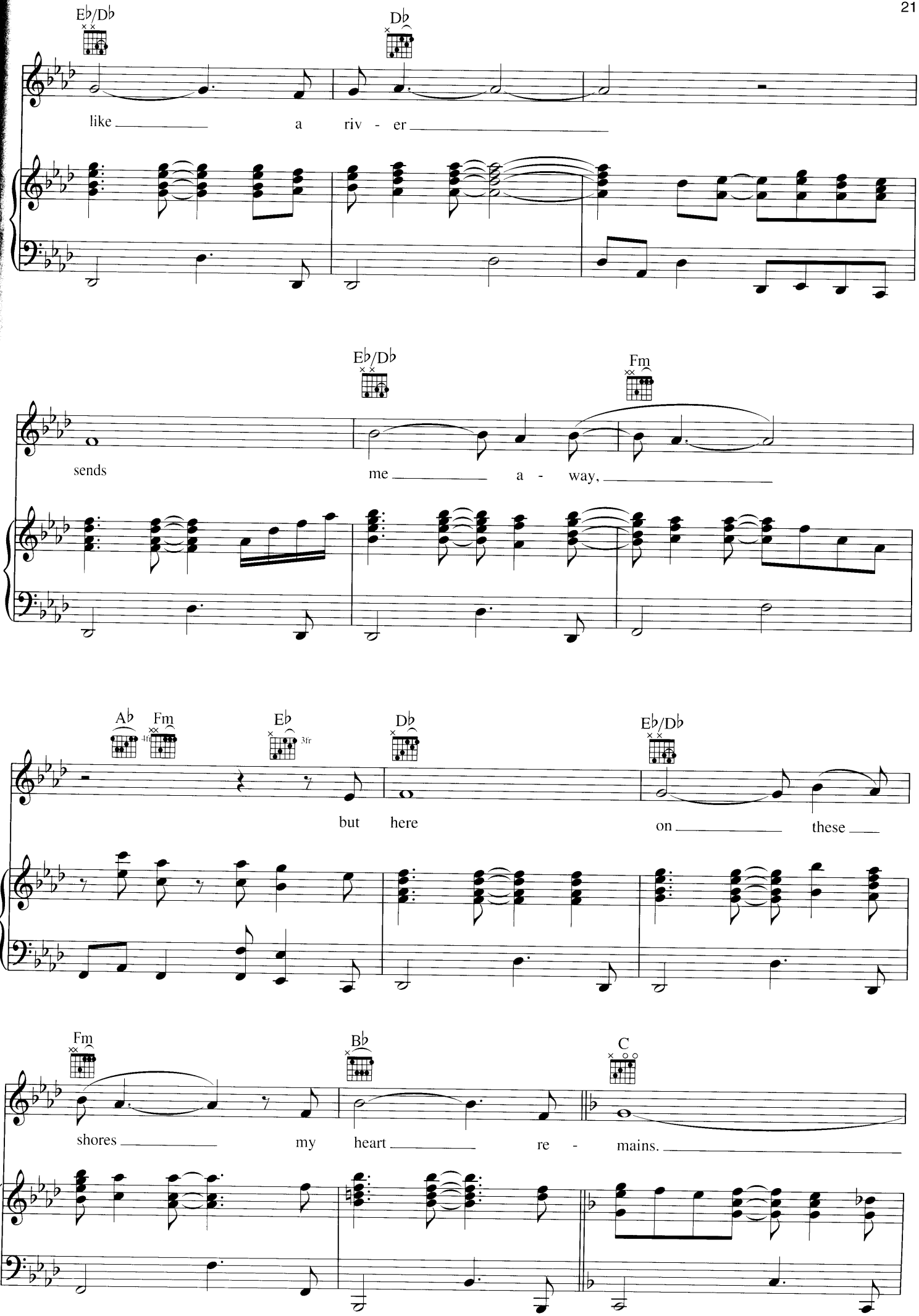
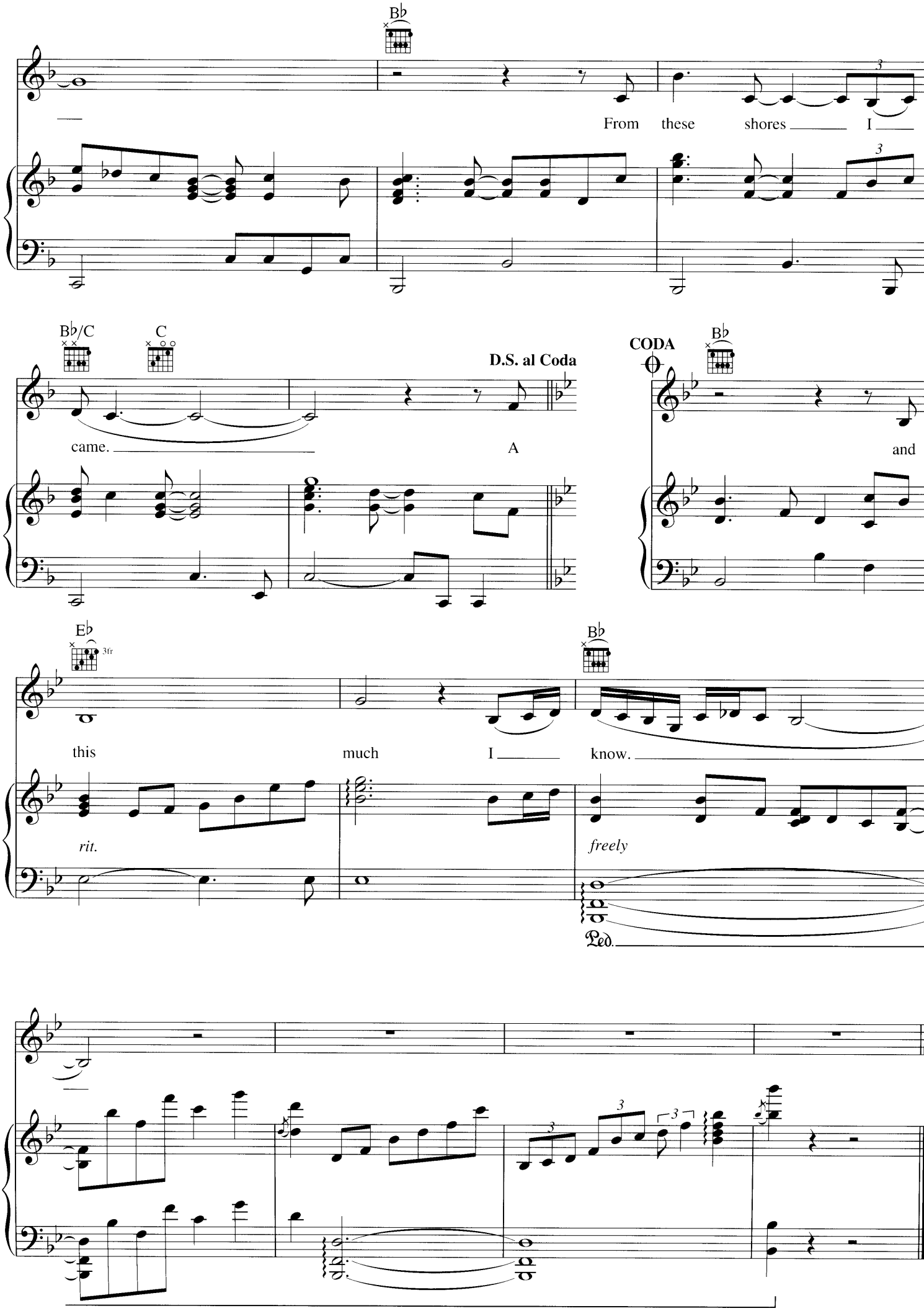

Cm
3fr
E♭
3fr
F
of moun - tains strong. They
through joy and pain, it
E♭
3fr
B♭
Gm7
stand be - side me, and all that I
breathes with - in me, and all that I
Dm7
E♭
3fr
B♭
am, they have writ - ten in my
am, it has writ - ten in my
F7
E♭
3fr
soul.
soul.
I've made a


B♭
Gm7
Dm7
prom - ise to nev - er lose sight of the
E♭
3fr
B♭
F7
dream that leads me home.
E♭
3fr
And this much I
B♭
To Coda
know:
know,
D♭
Time

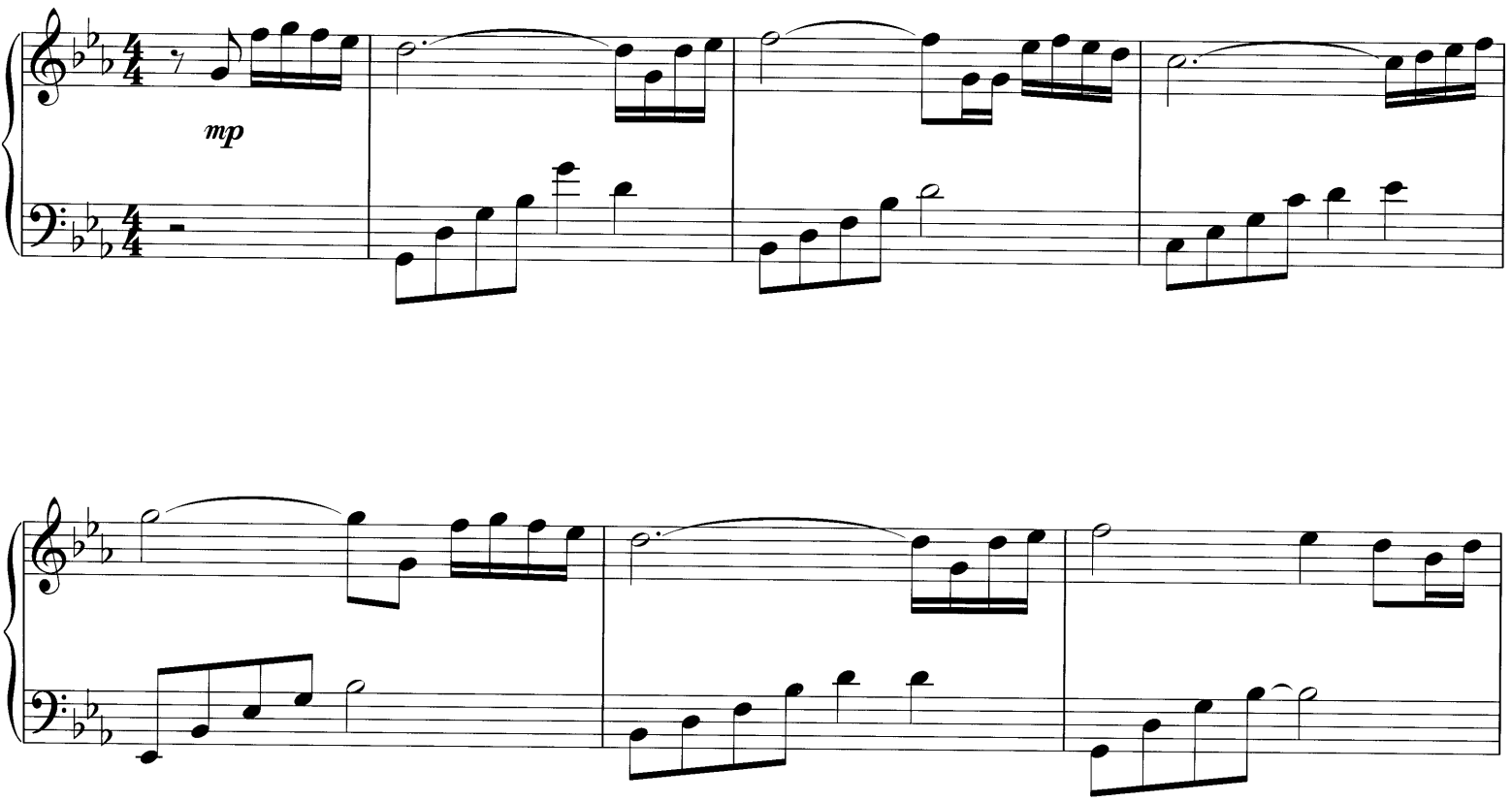

E♭/D♭
D♭
like a riv - er
E♭/D♭
Fm
sends me a - way,
A♭
Fm
4fr
E♭
3fr
D♭
E♭/D♭
but here on these
Fm
B♭
C
shores my heart re - mains.


B♭
From these shores I
B♭/C
C
D.S. al Coda
came.
A
CODA
B♭
and
E♭
3fr
B♭
this
much
I
know.
rit.
freely
Ped.

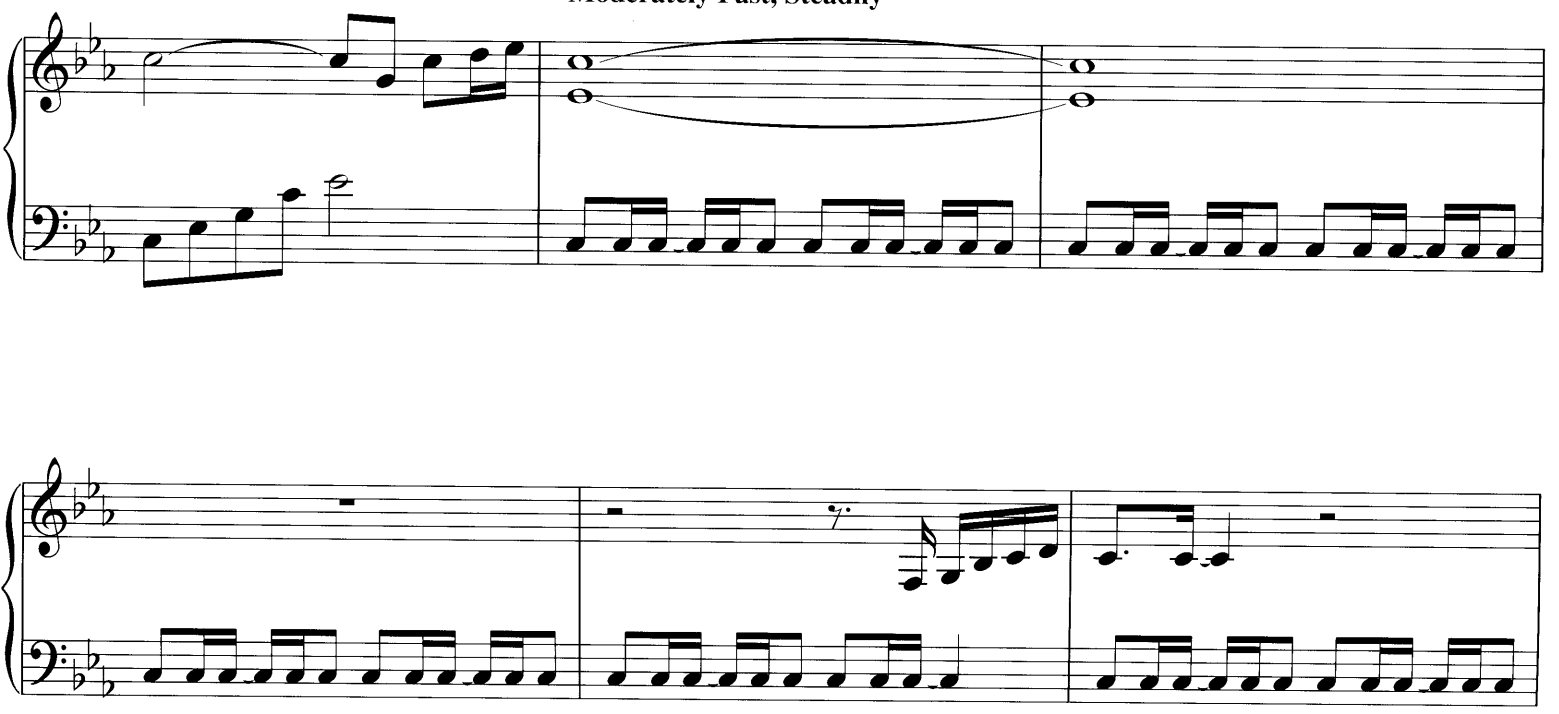
RAINMAKER

Composed by YANNI

Slowly, expressively



Moderately Fast, Steadily



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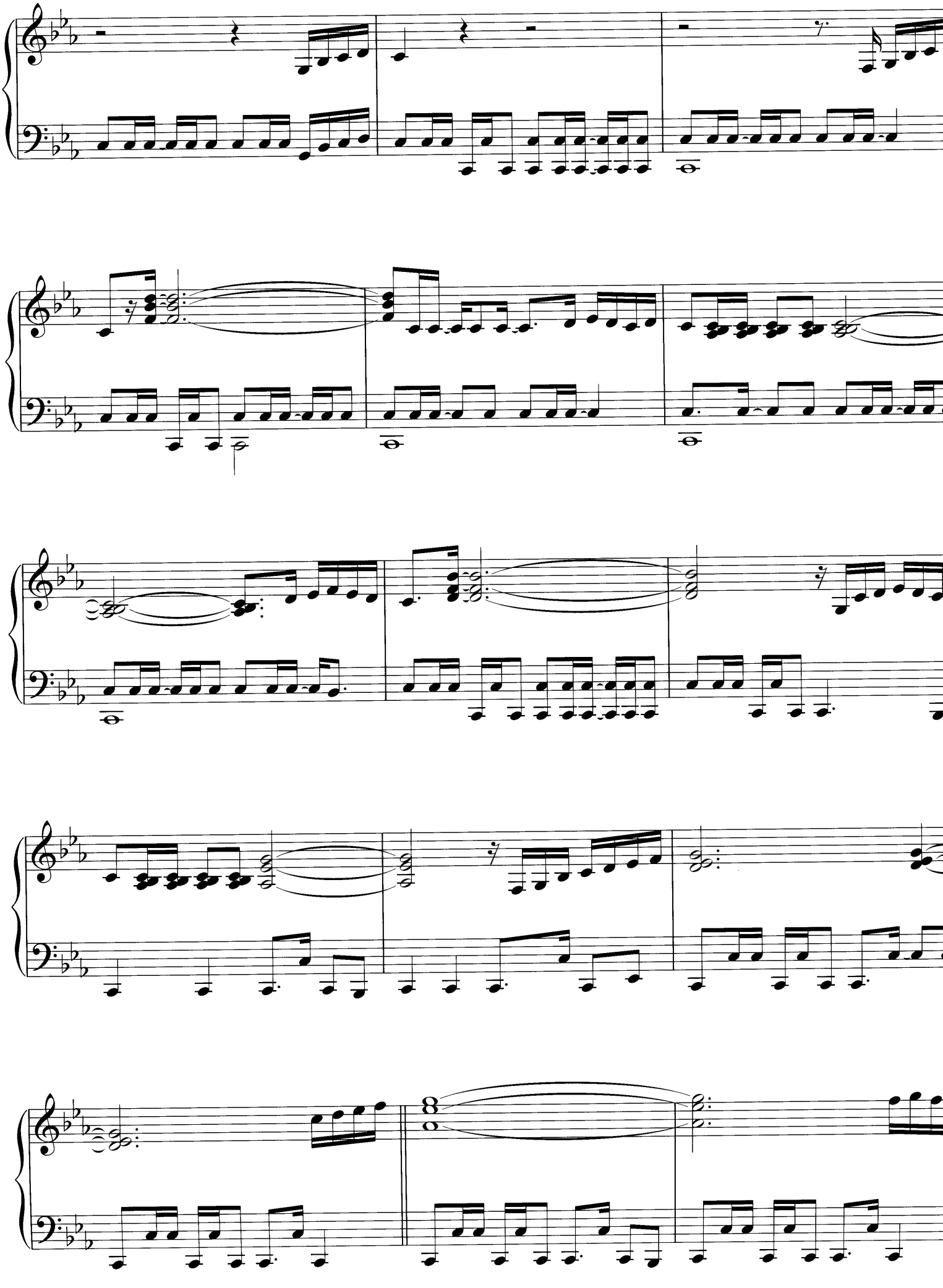

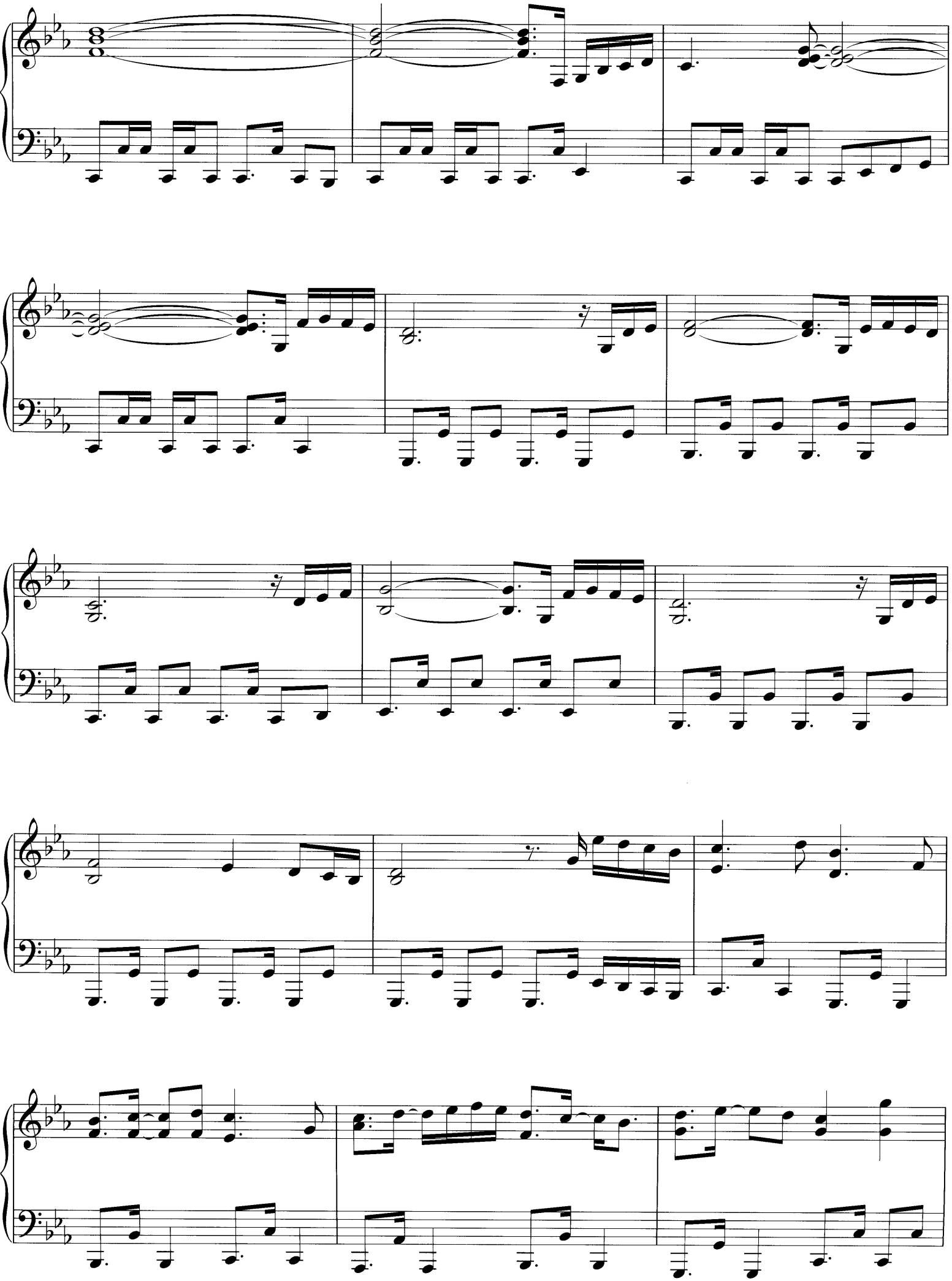

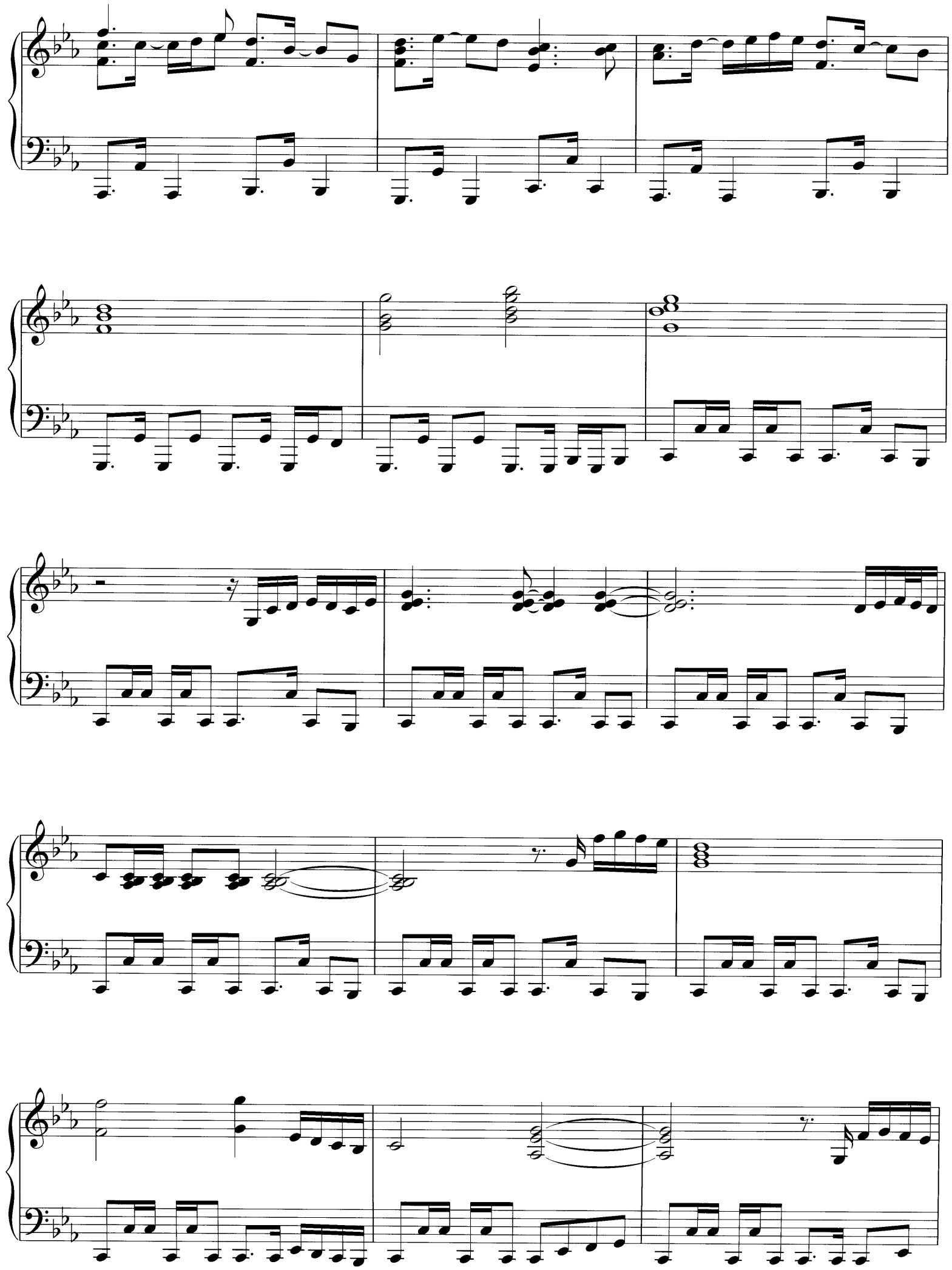

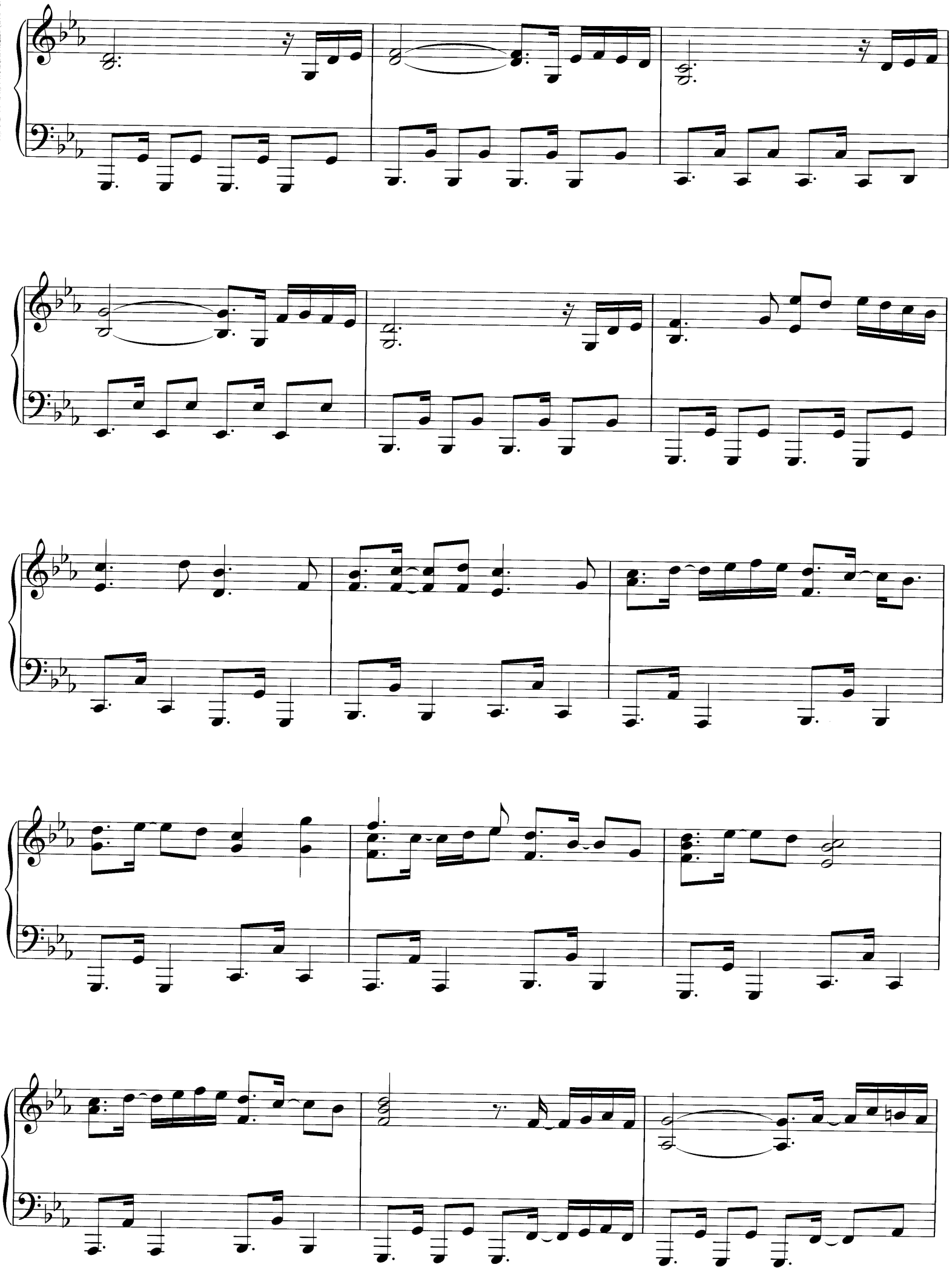

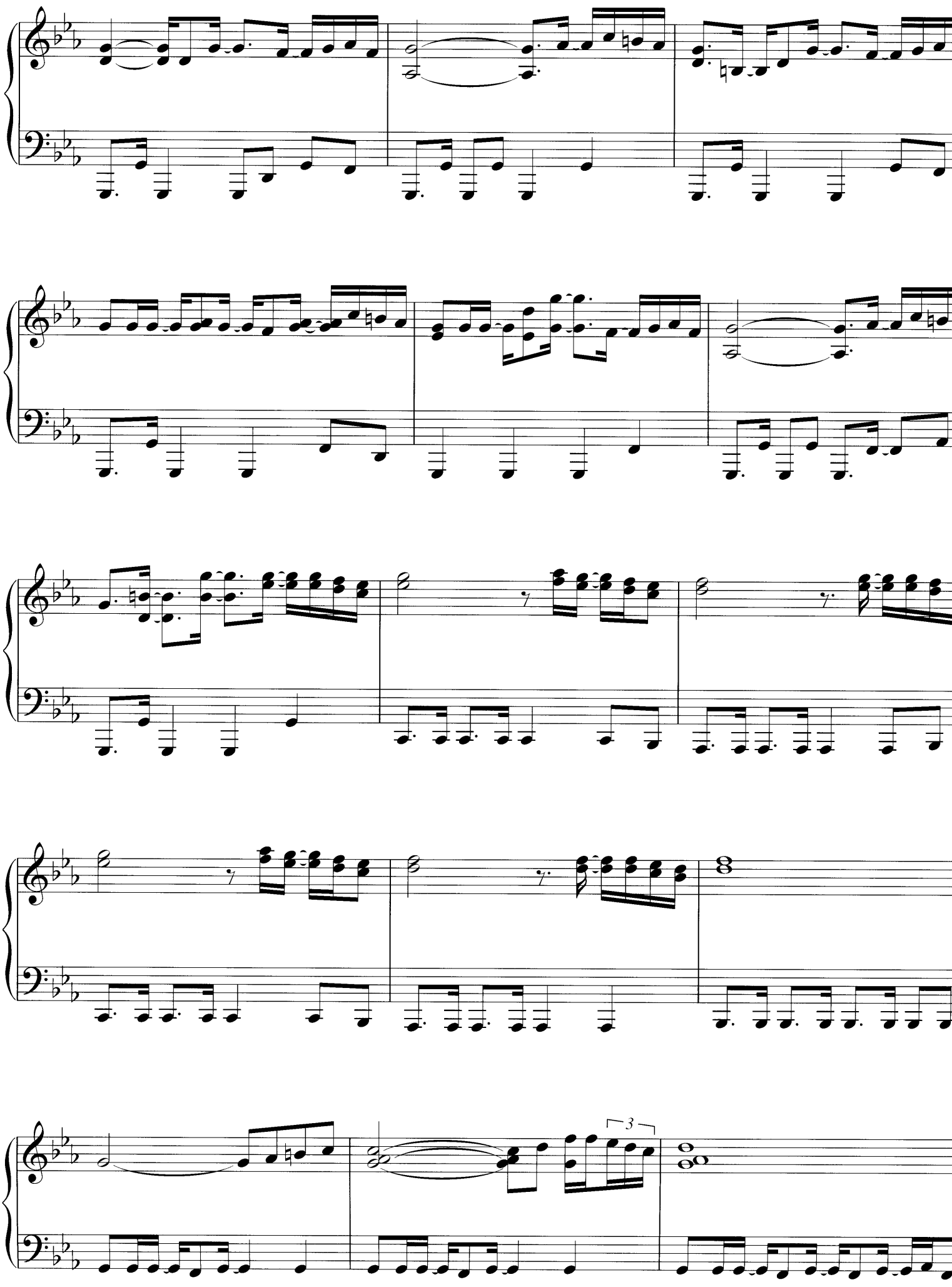
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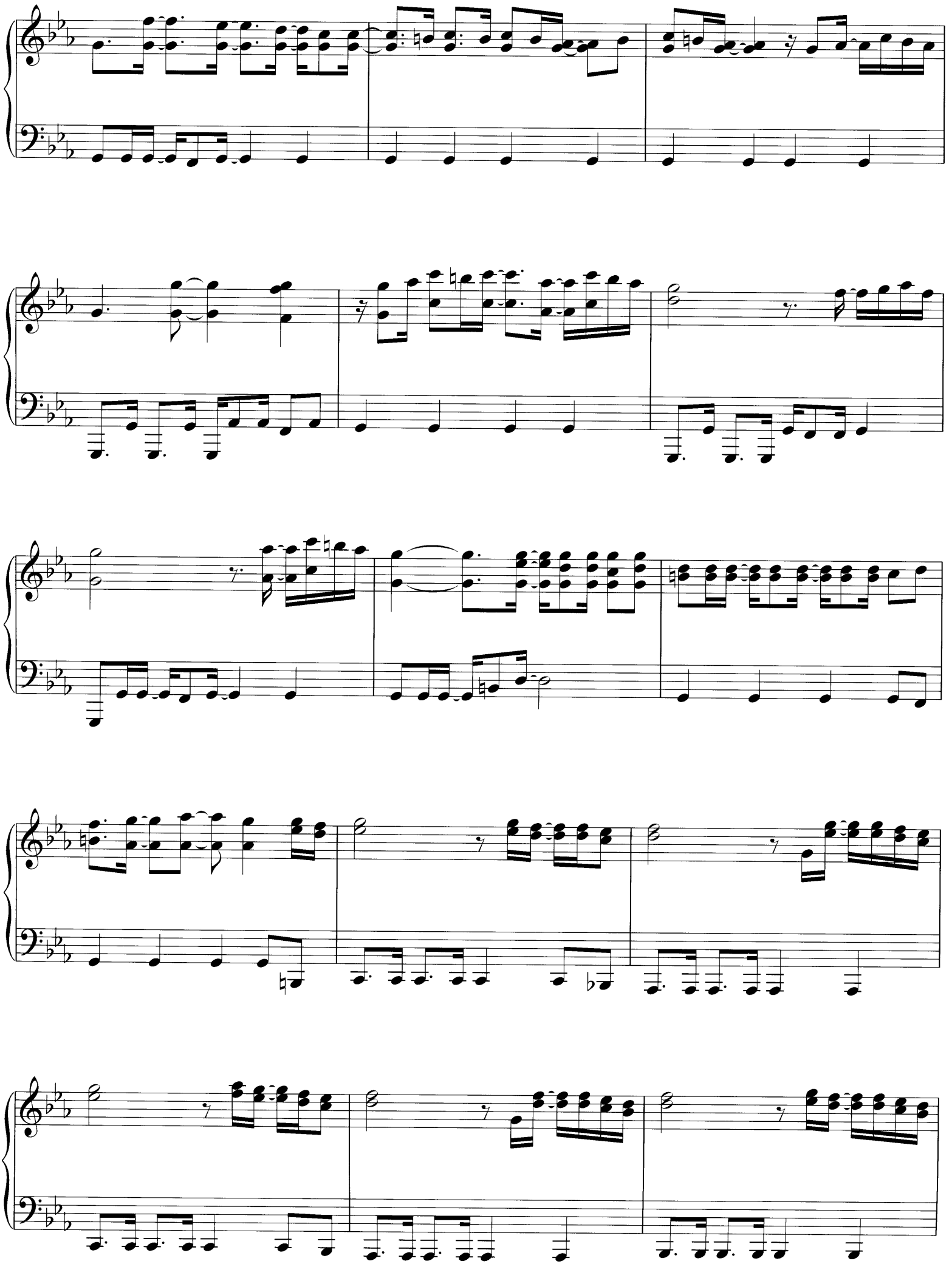

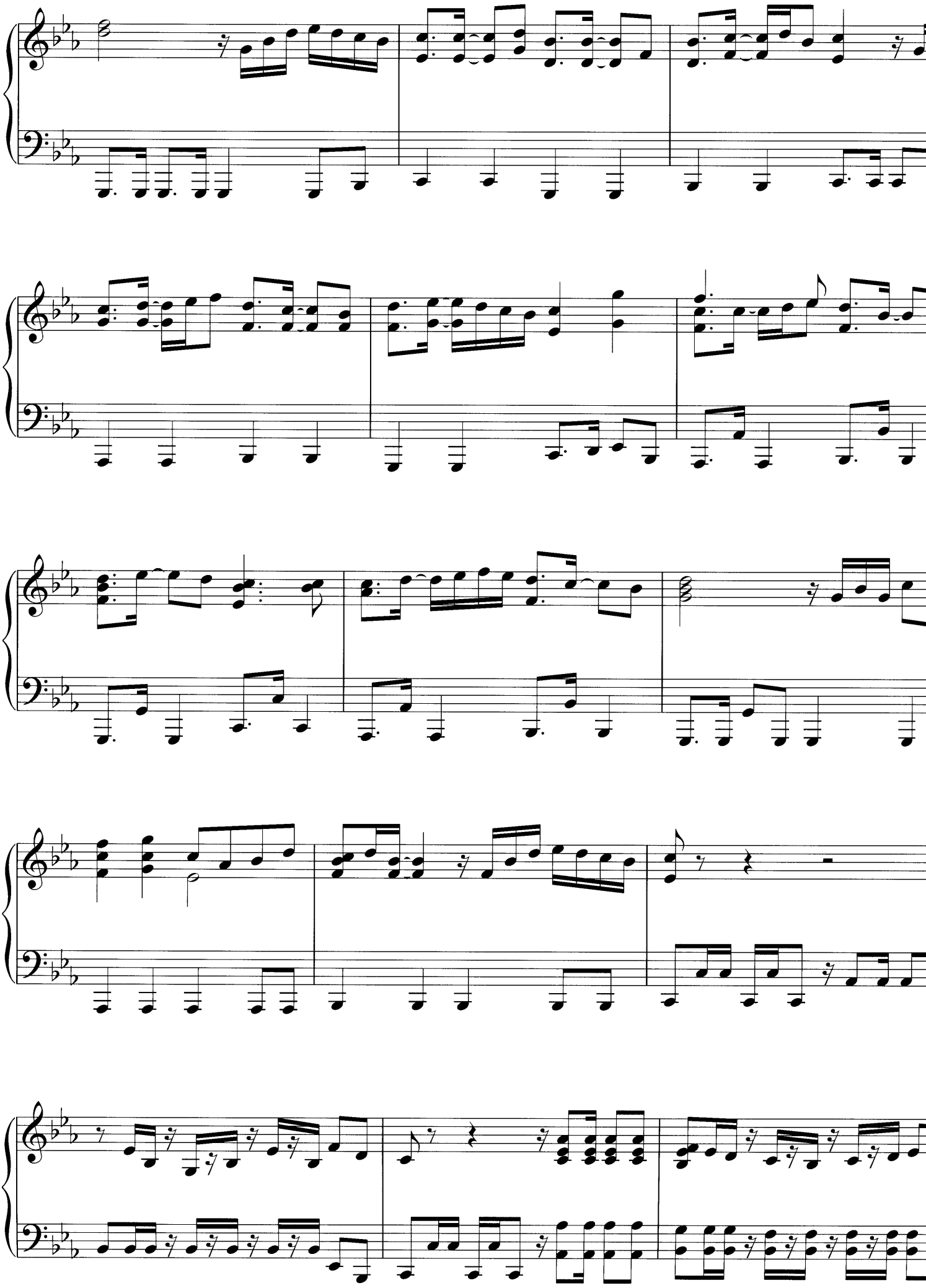

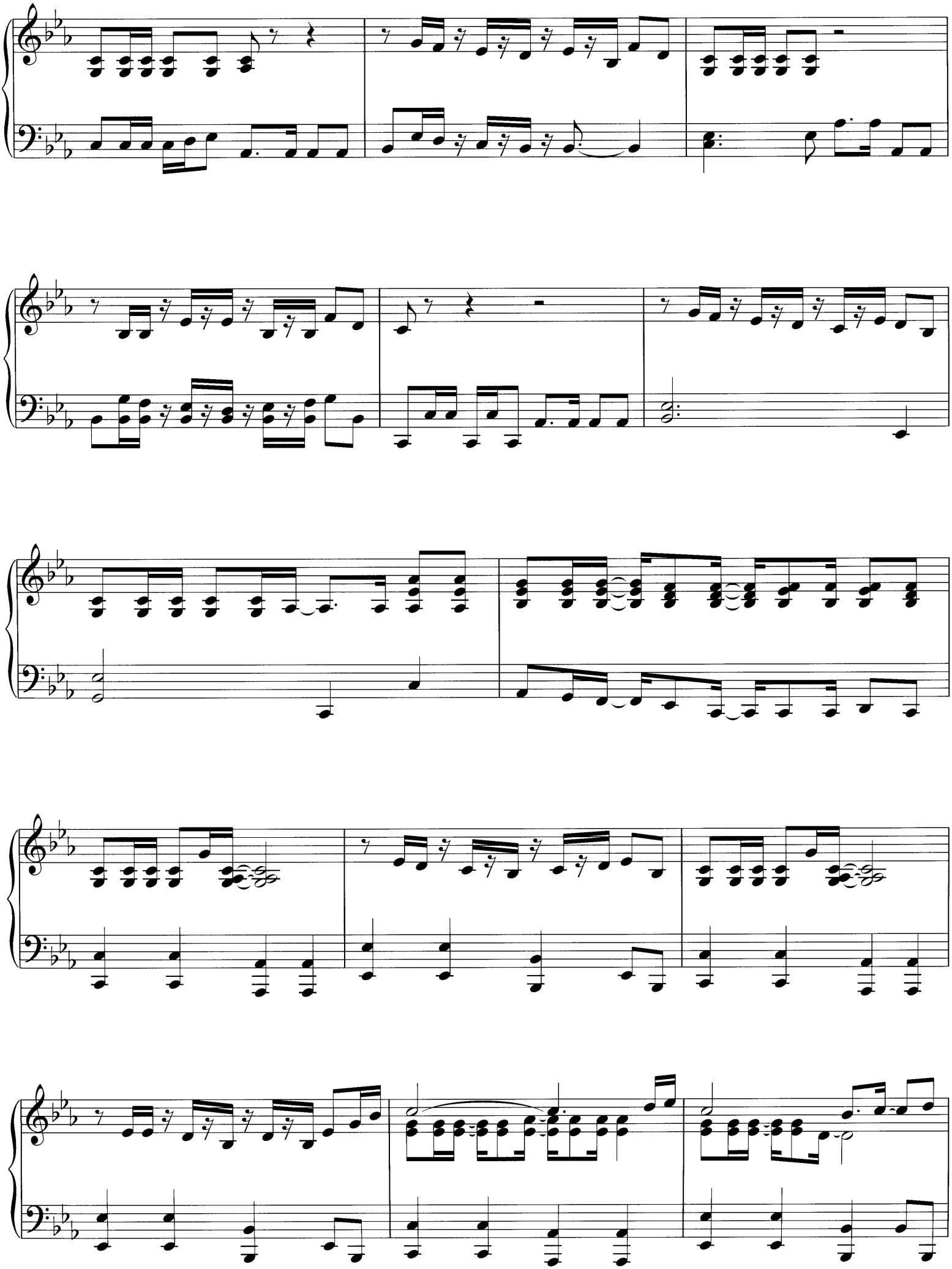

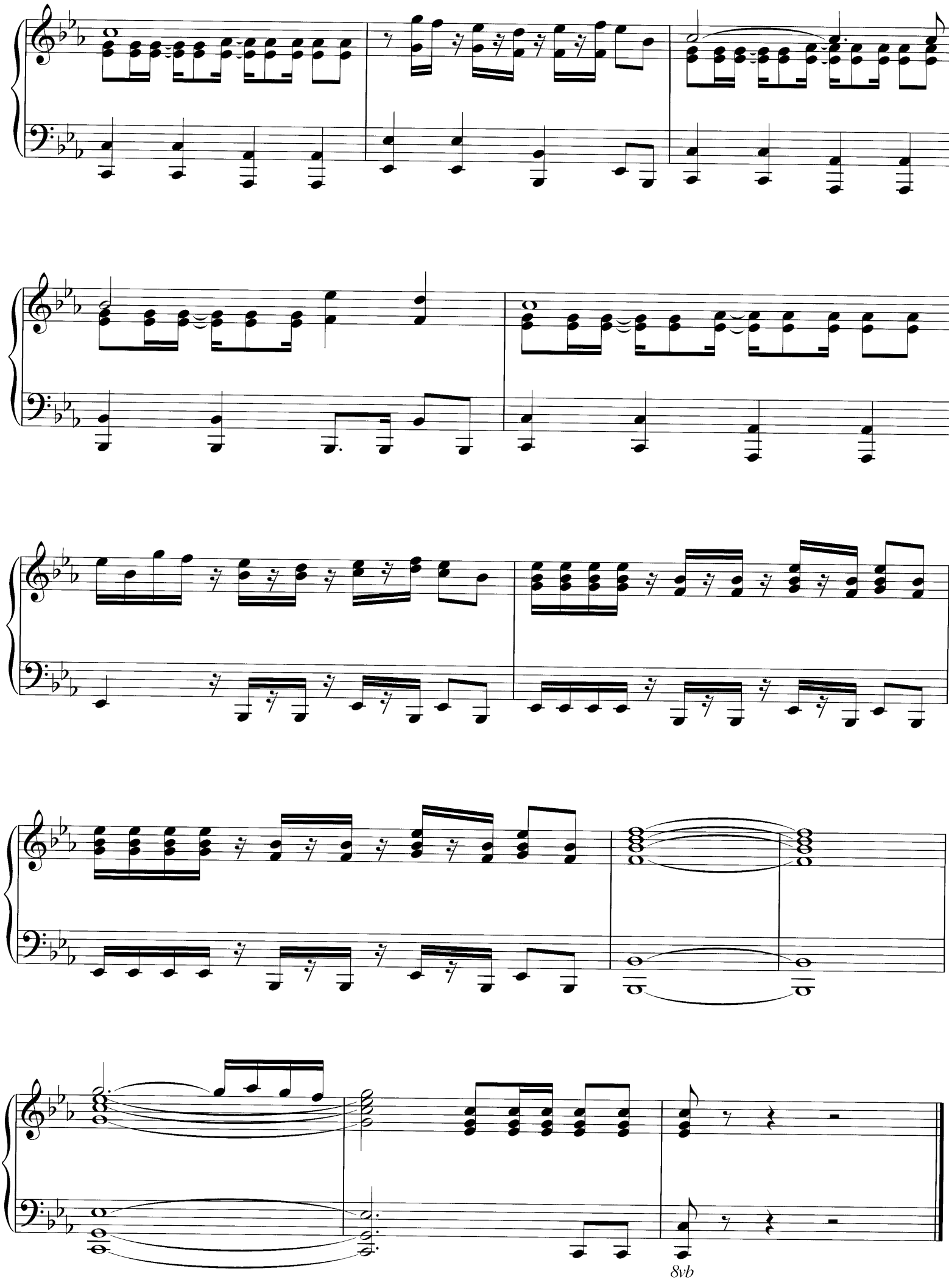
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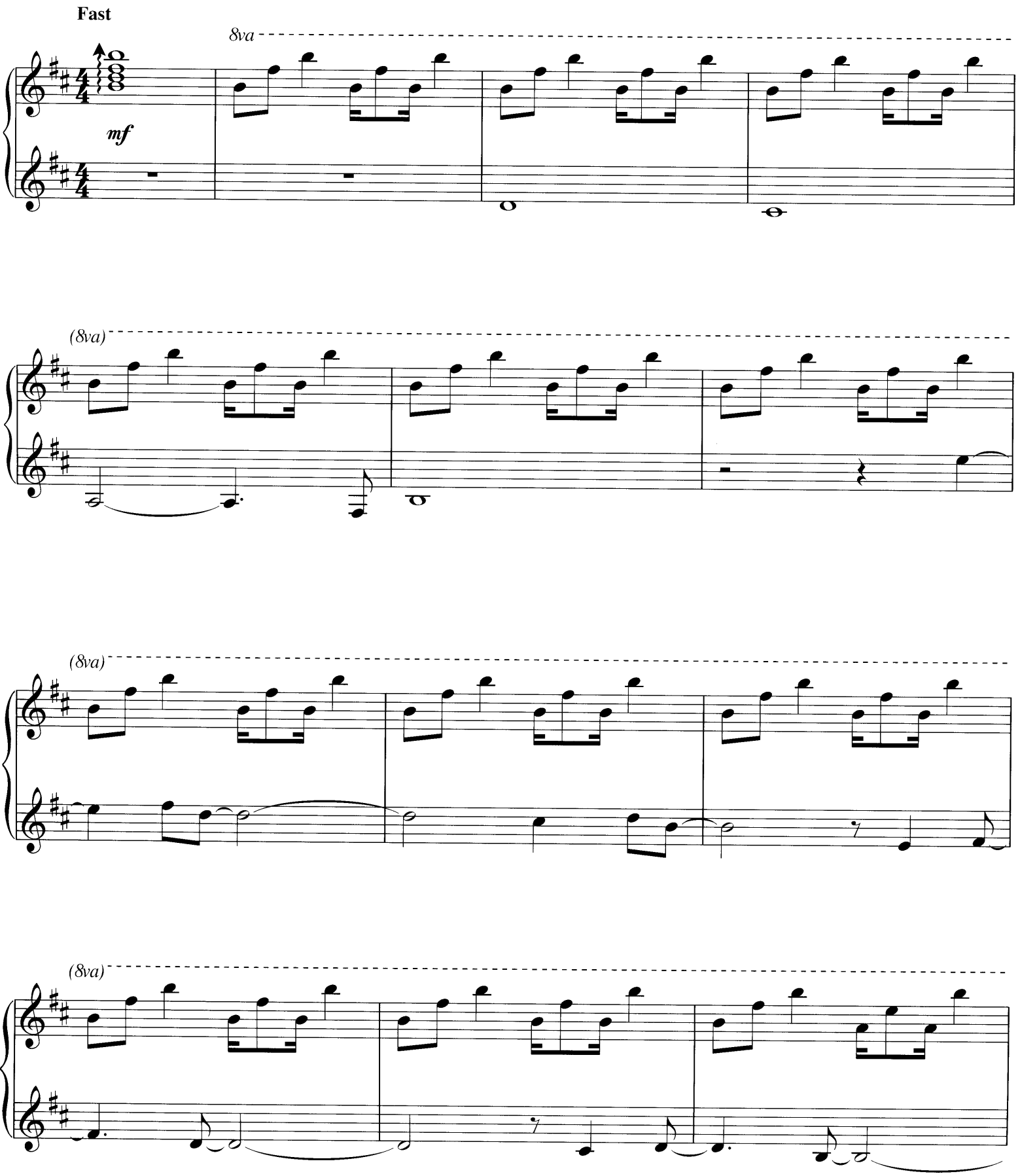
WRITTEN ON THE WIND

Composed by YANNI



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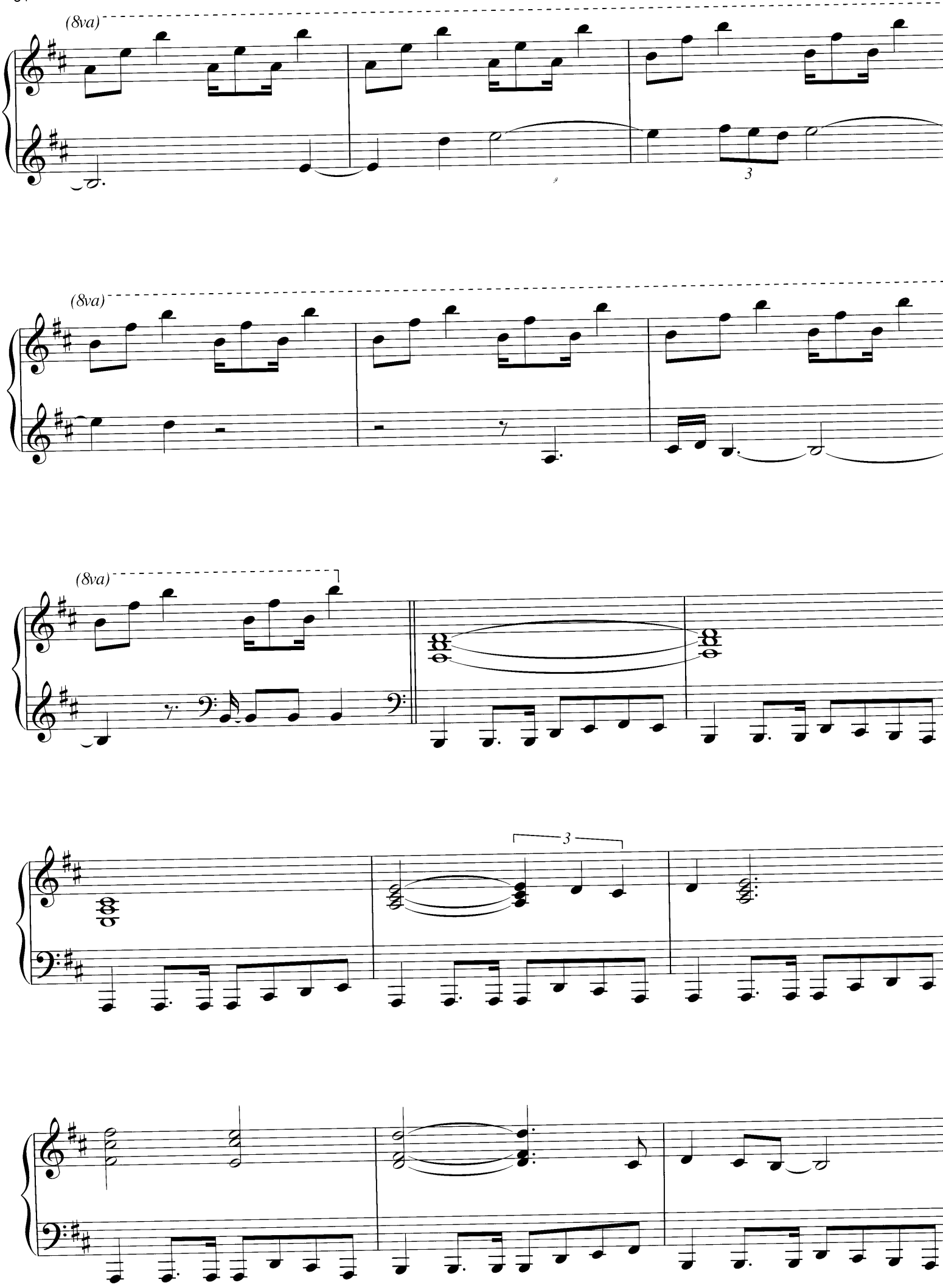
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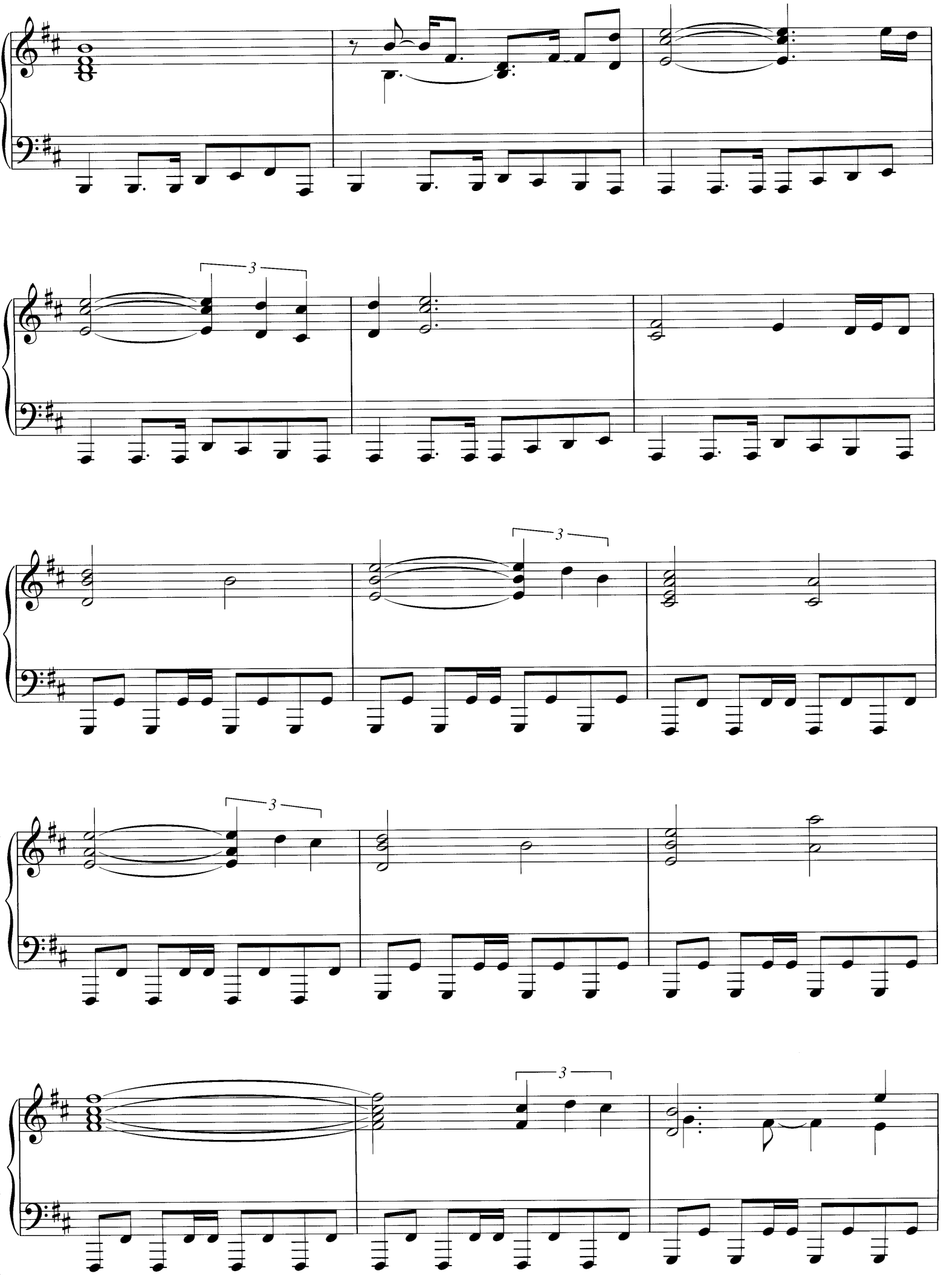
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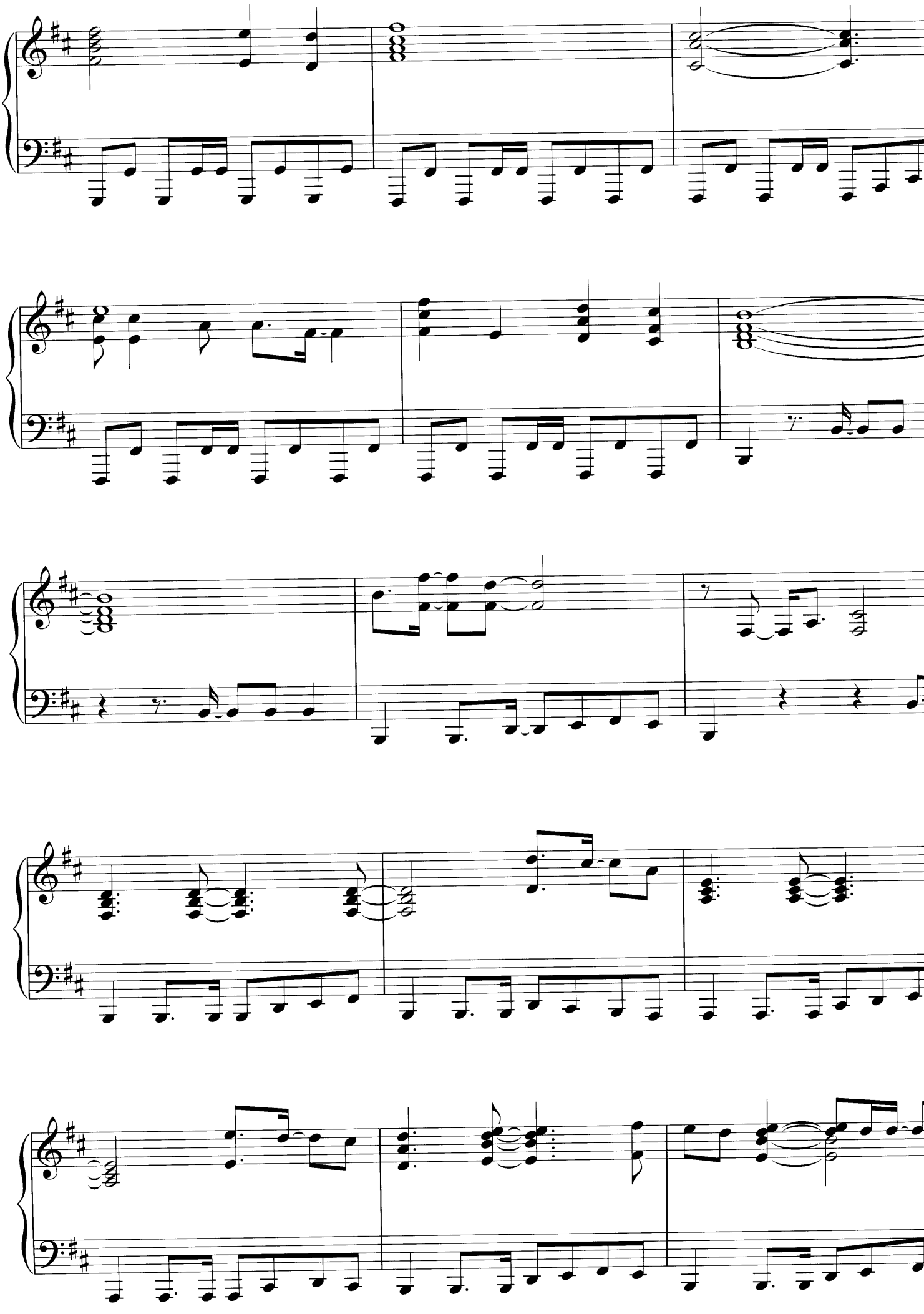

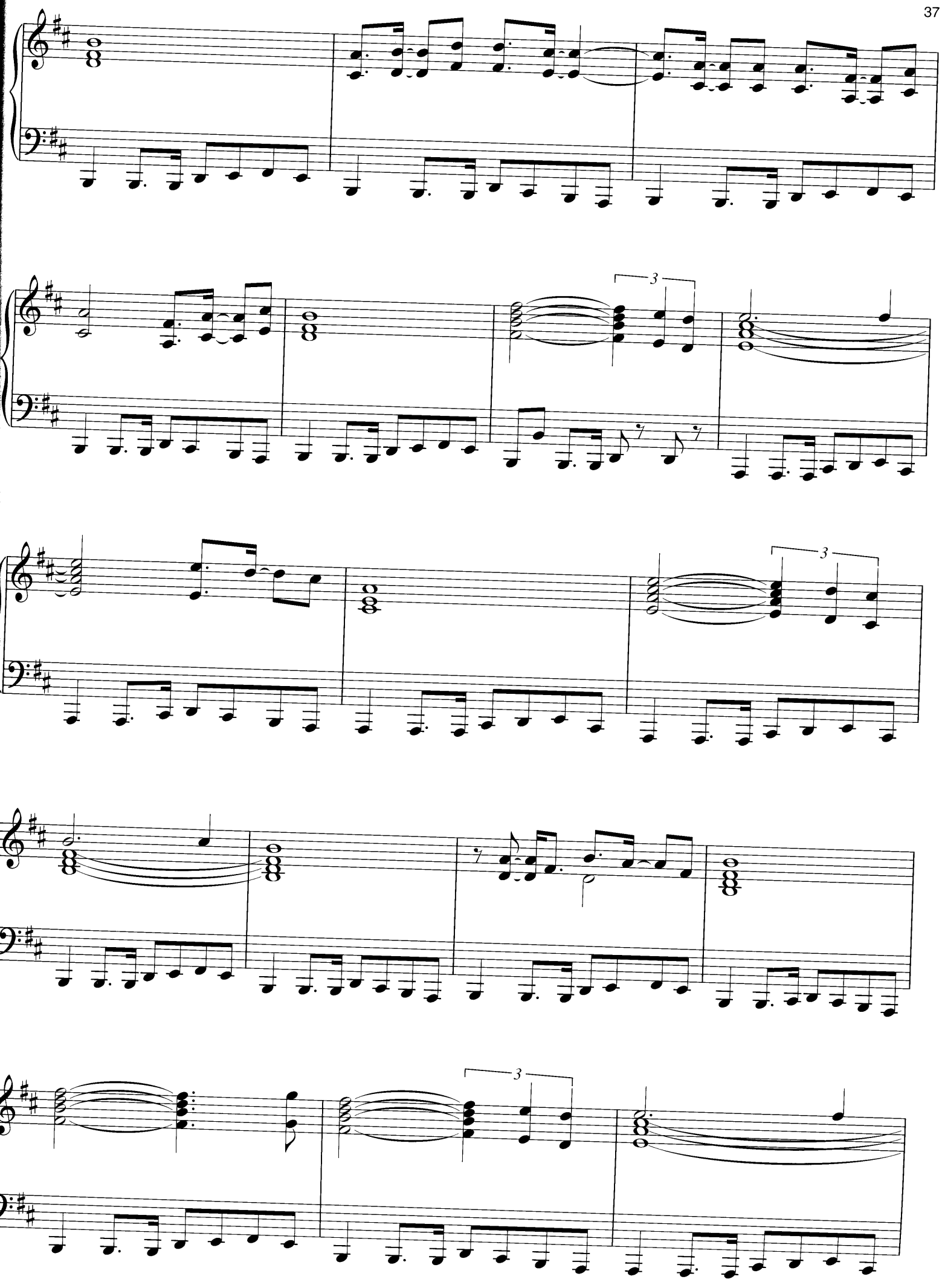
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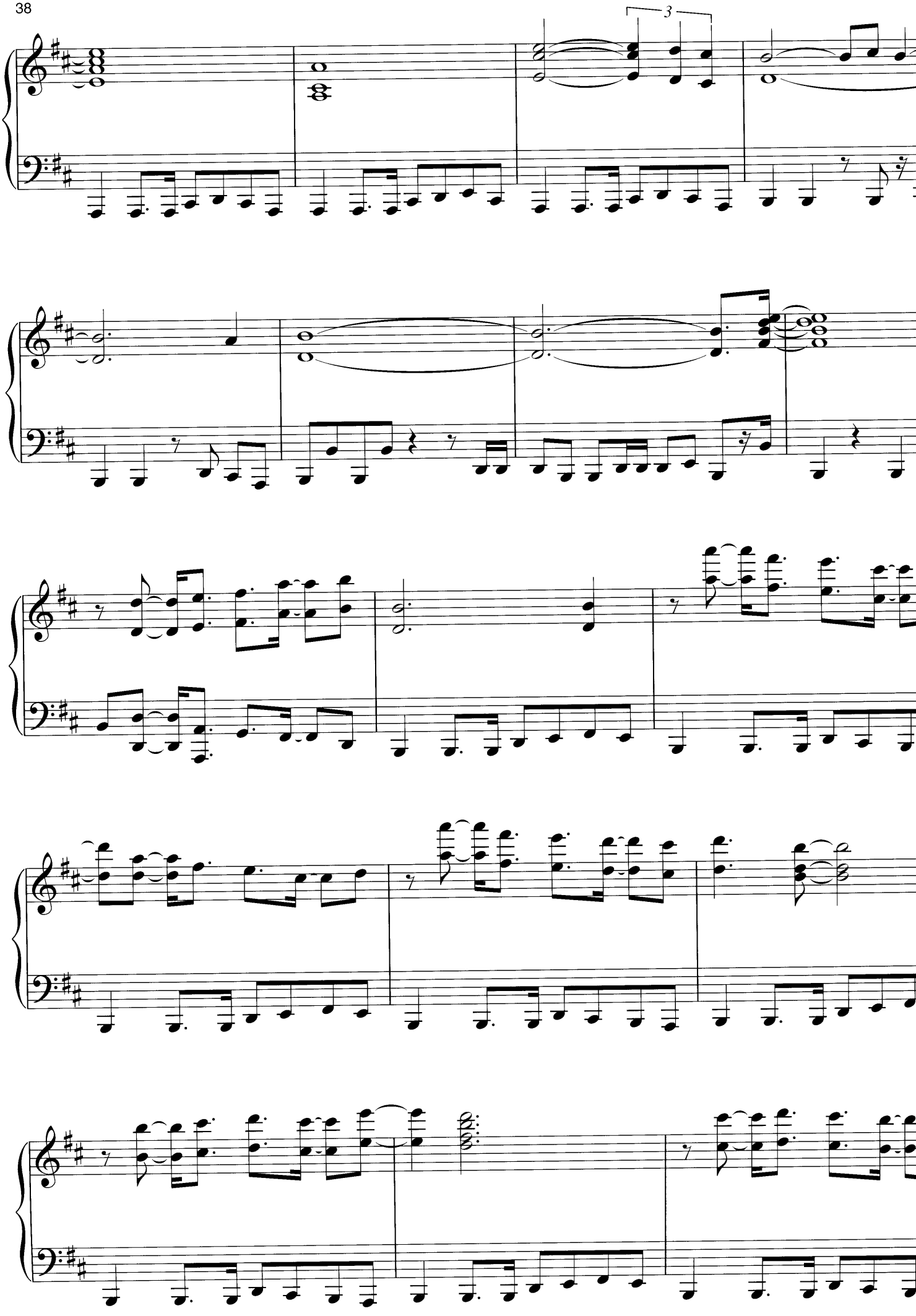
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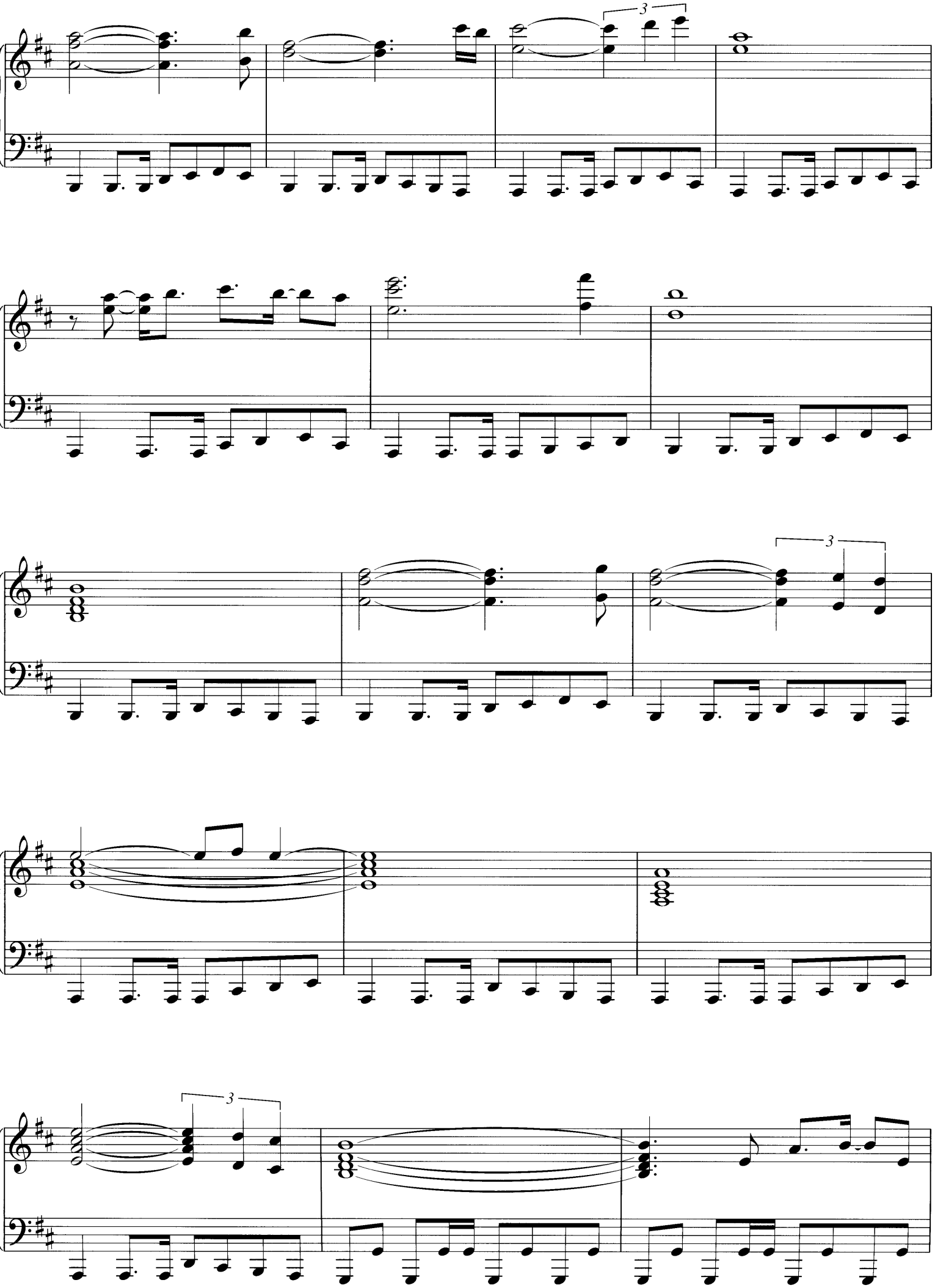
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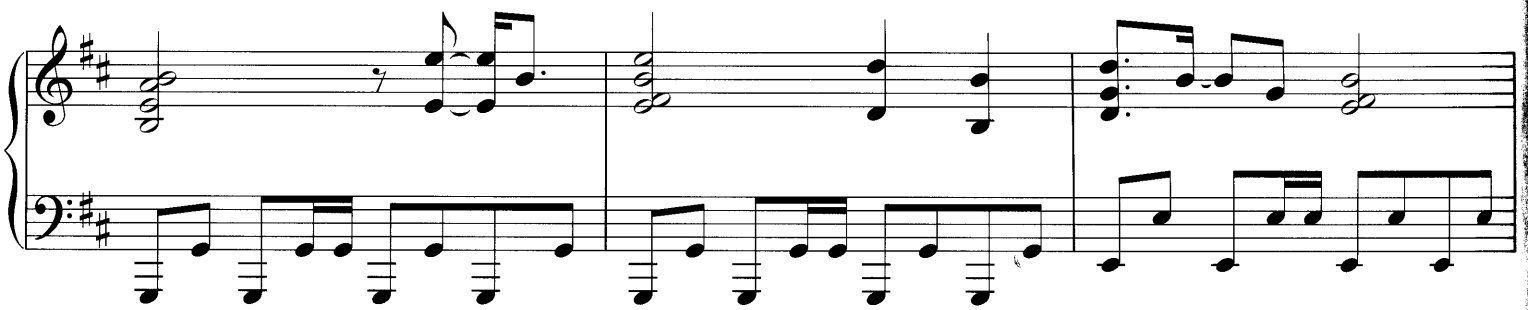
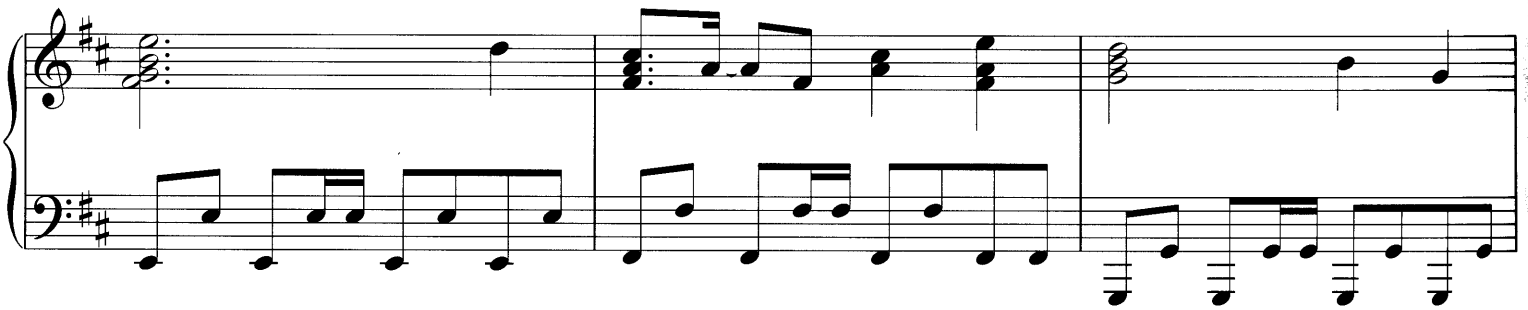
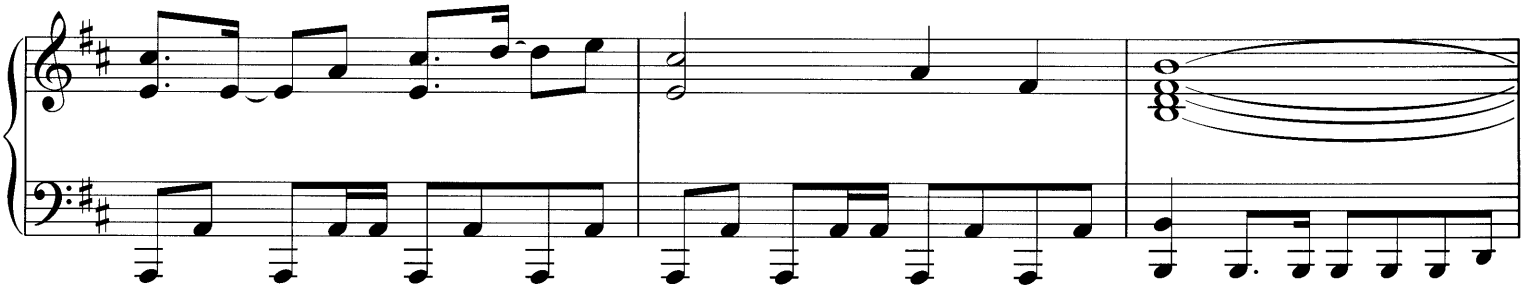
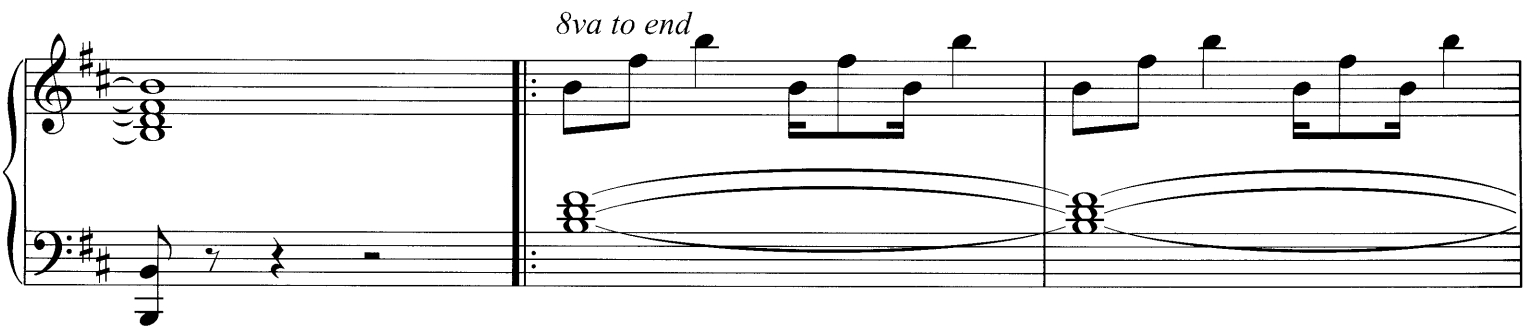
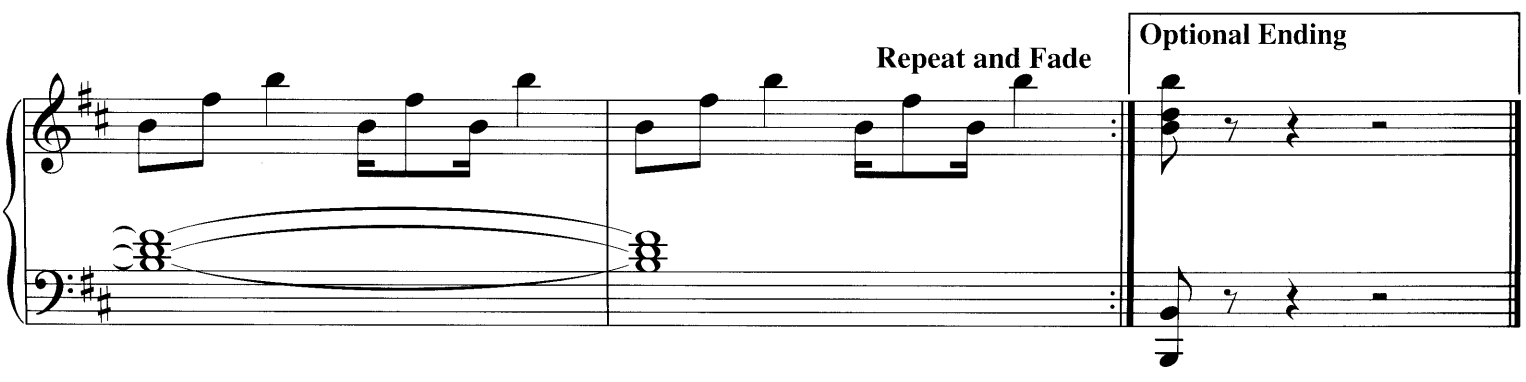




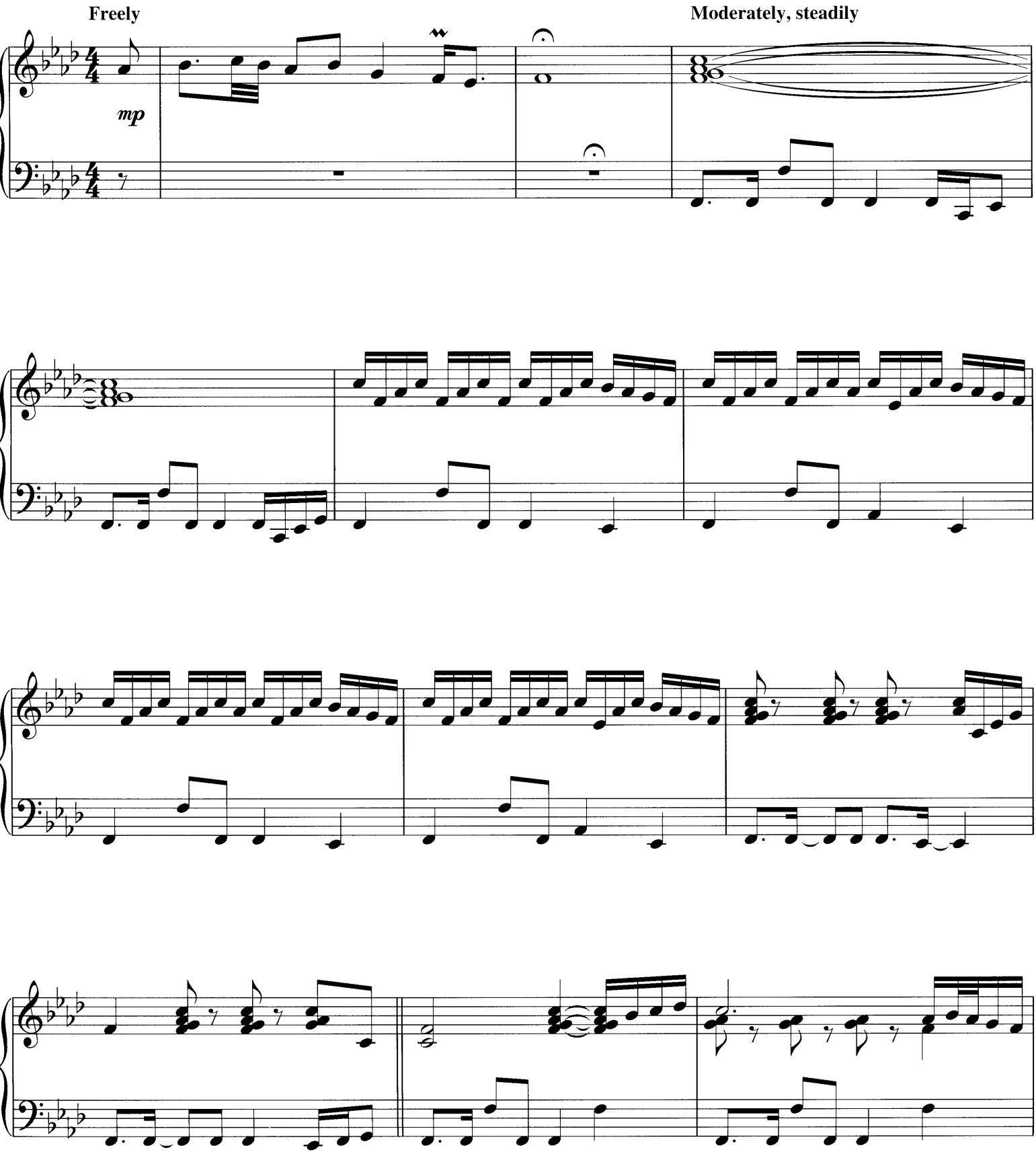



8va to end


Repeat and Fade
Optional Ending

PLAYING BY HEART

Composed by YANNI



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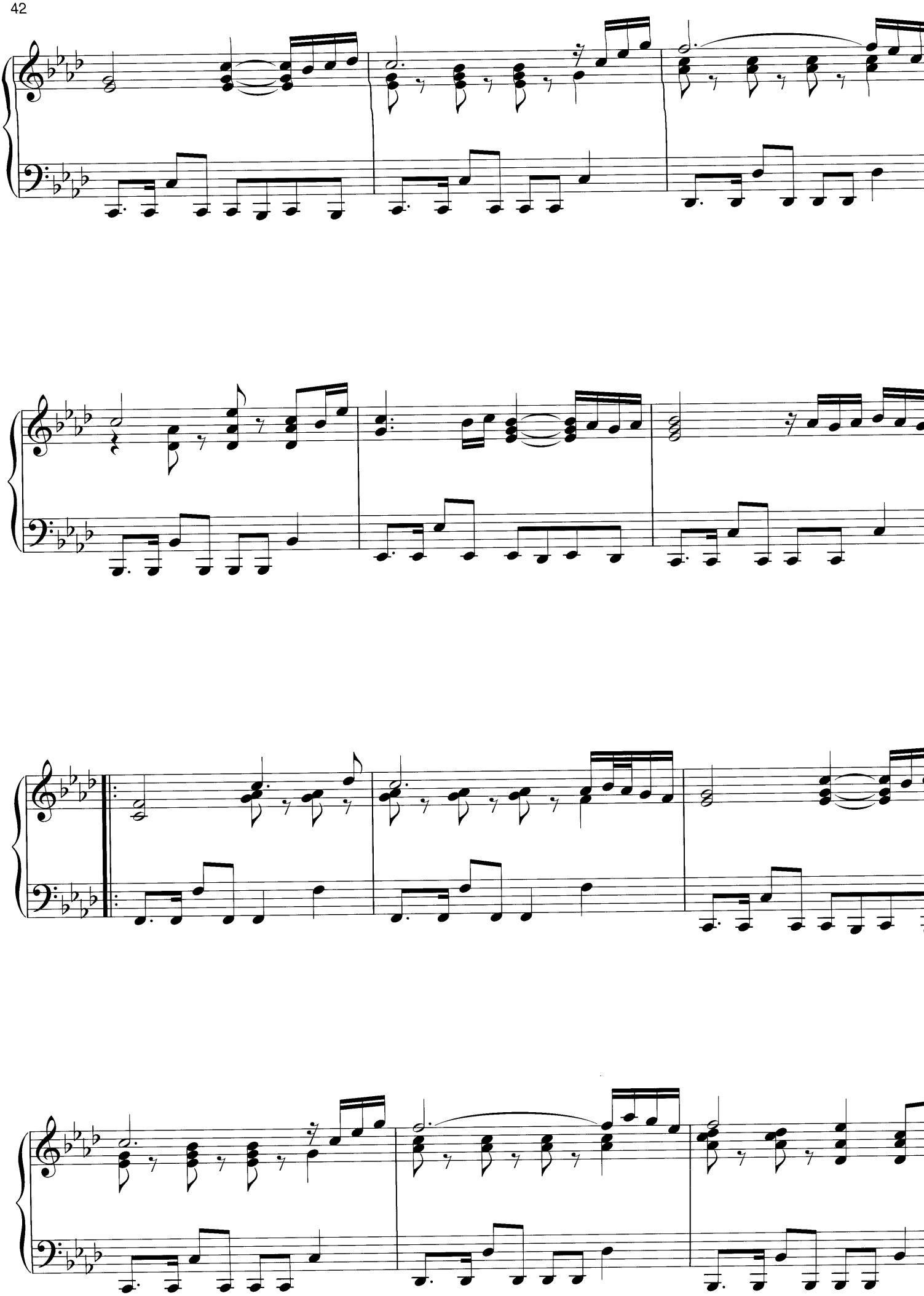

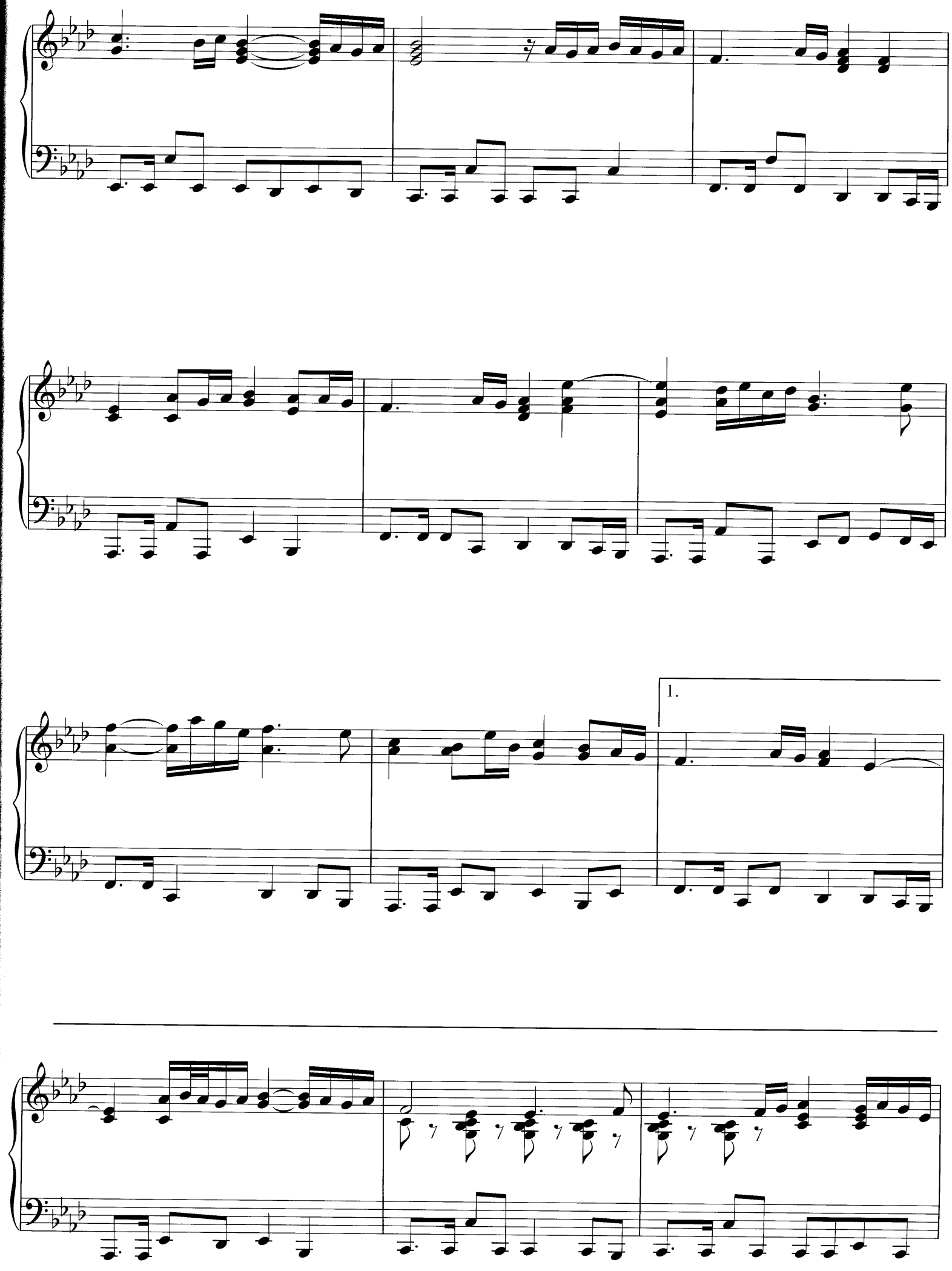
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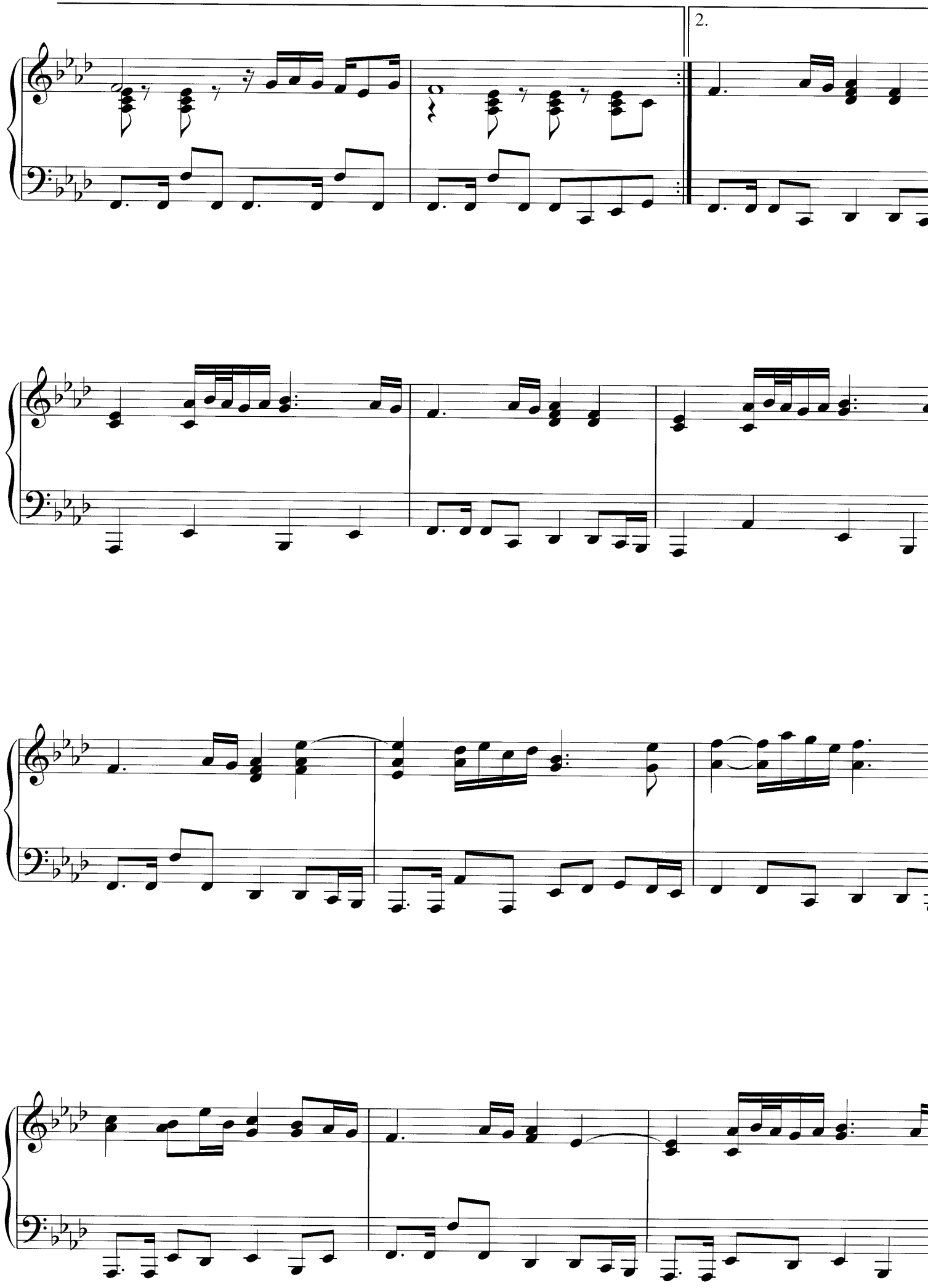
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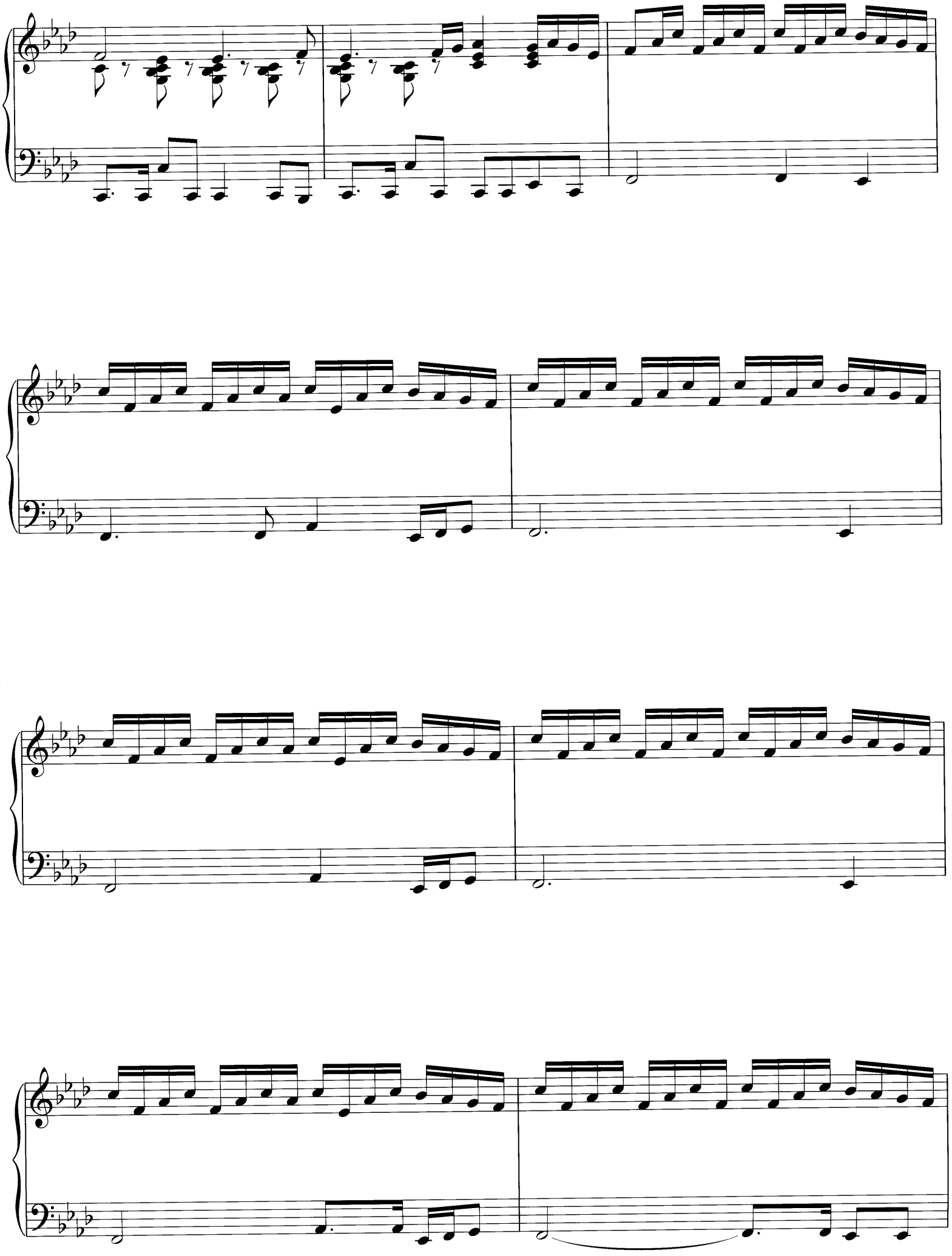
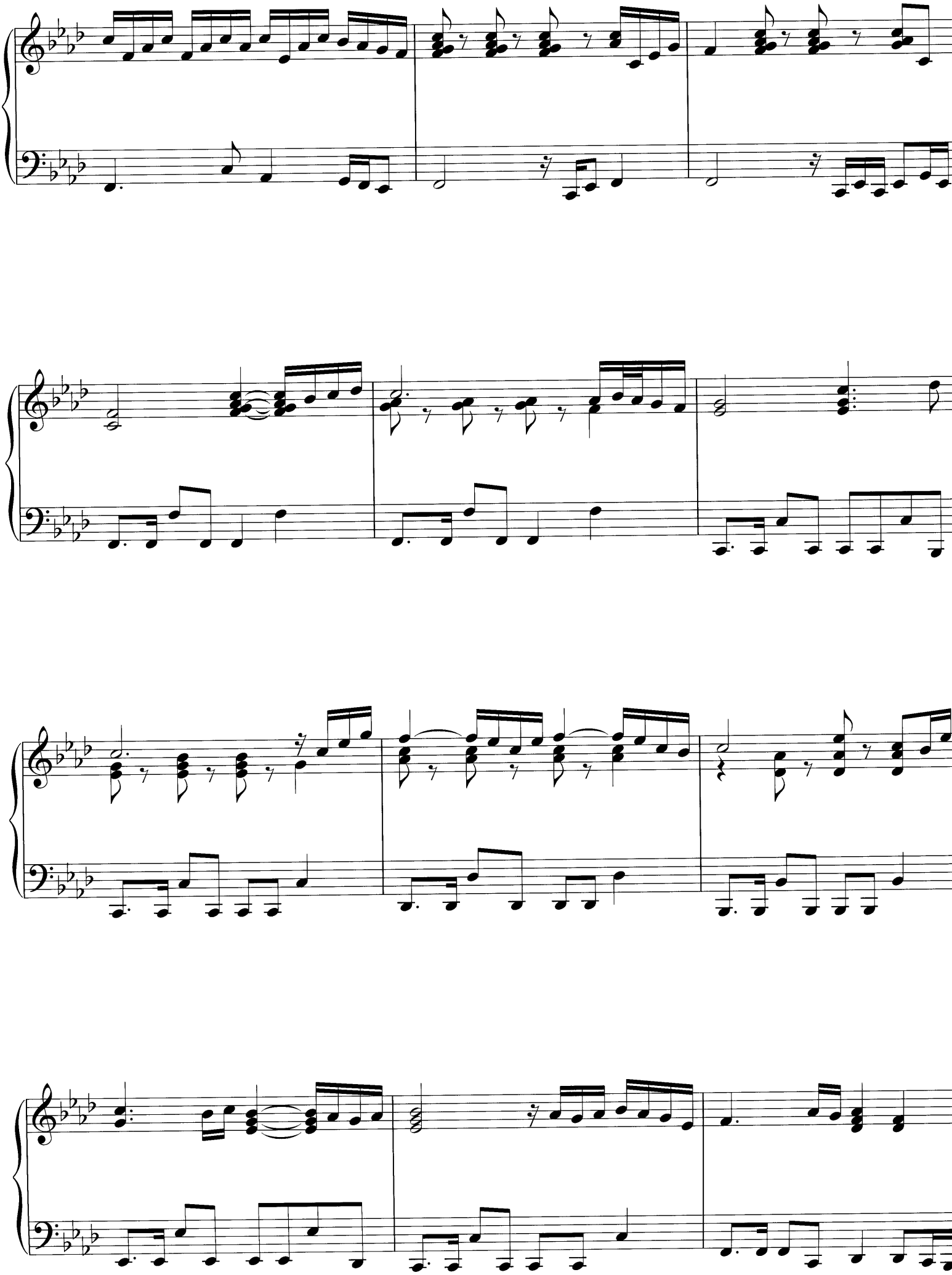
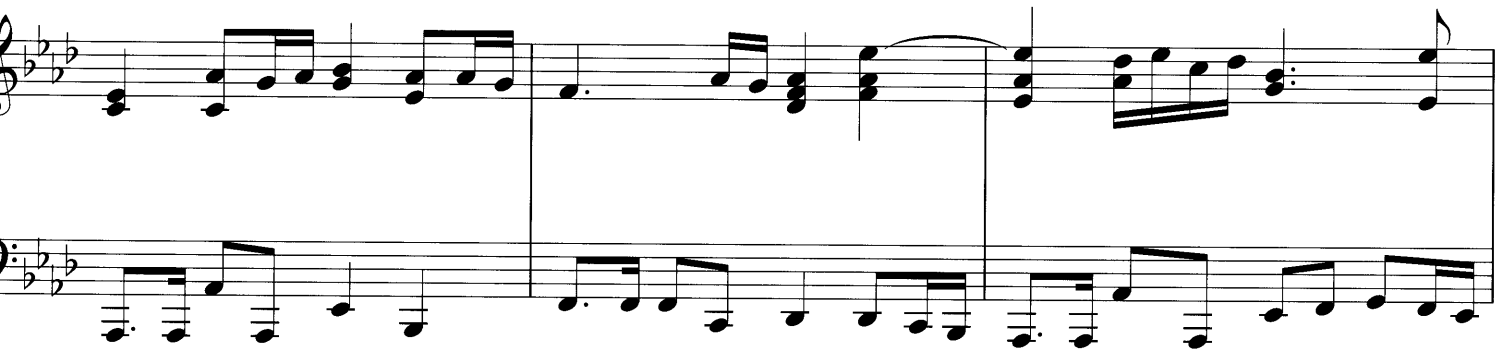
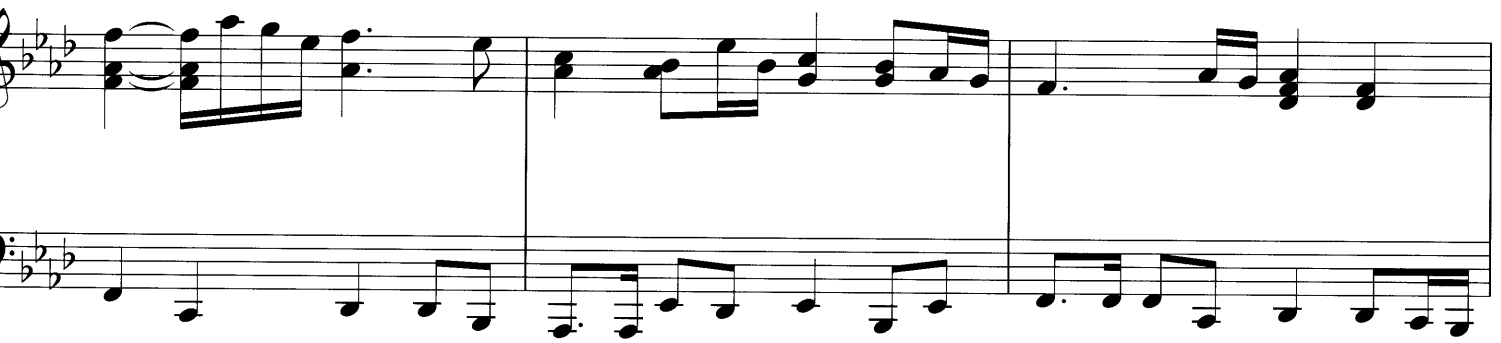
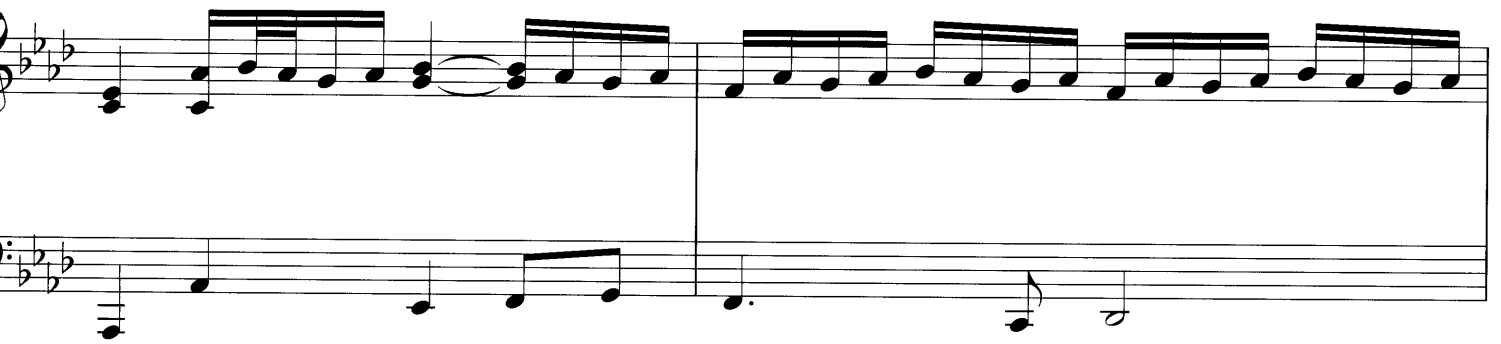
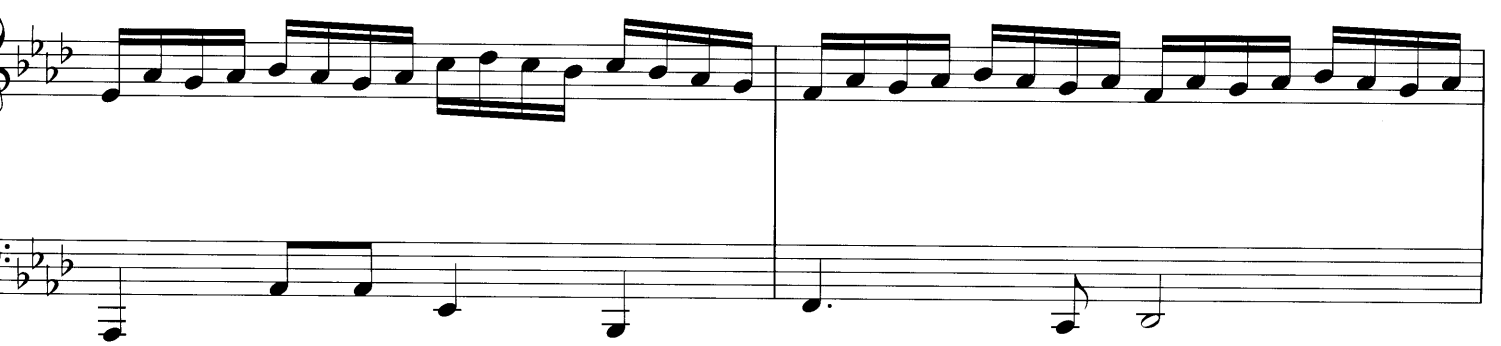


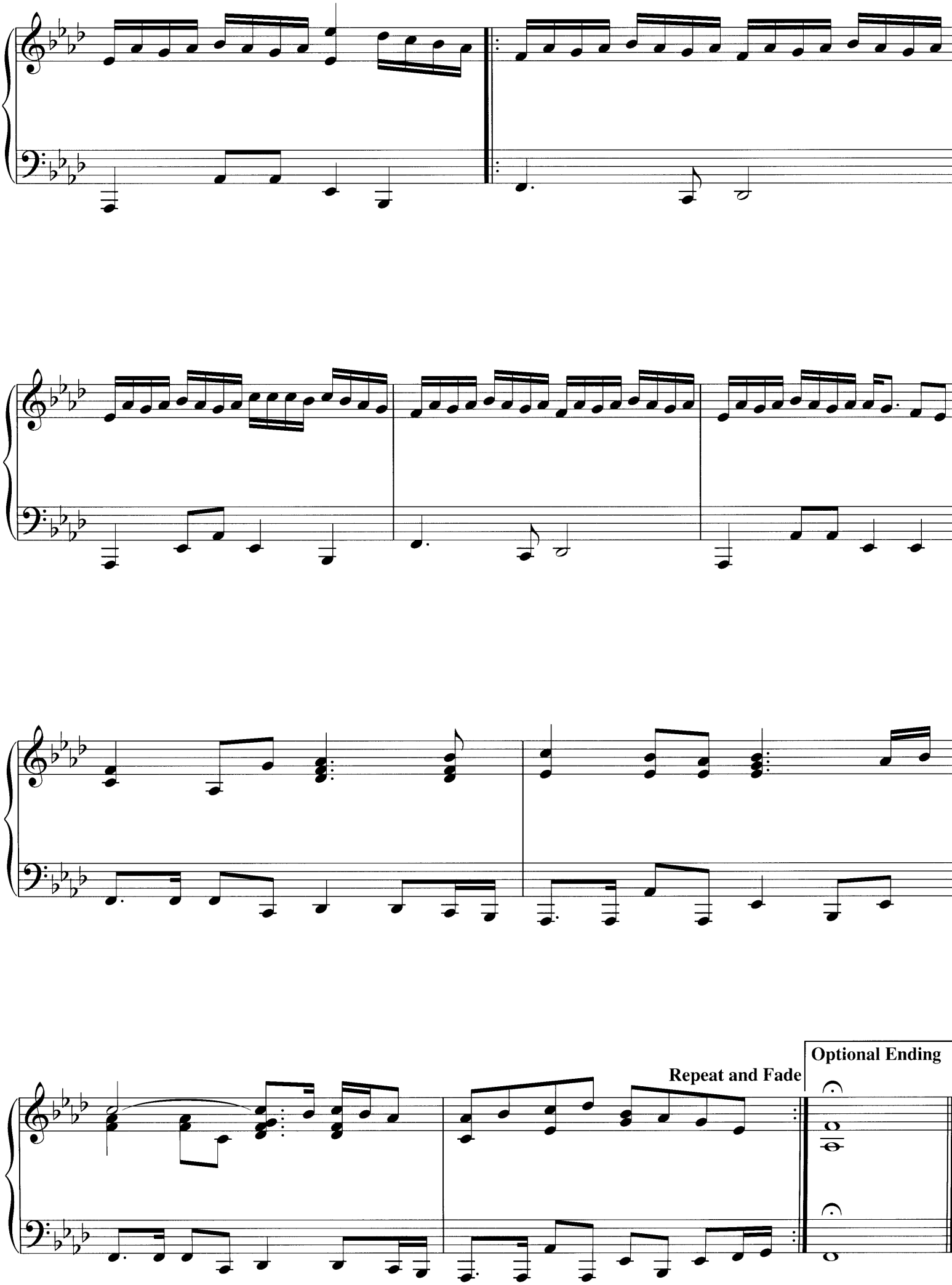






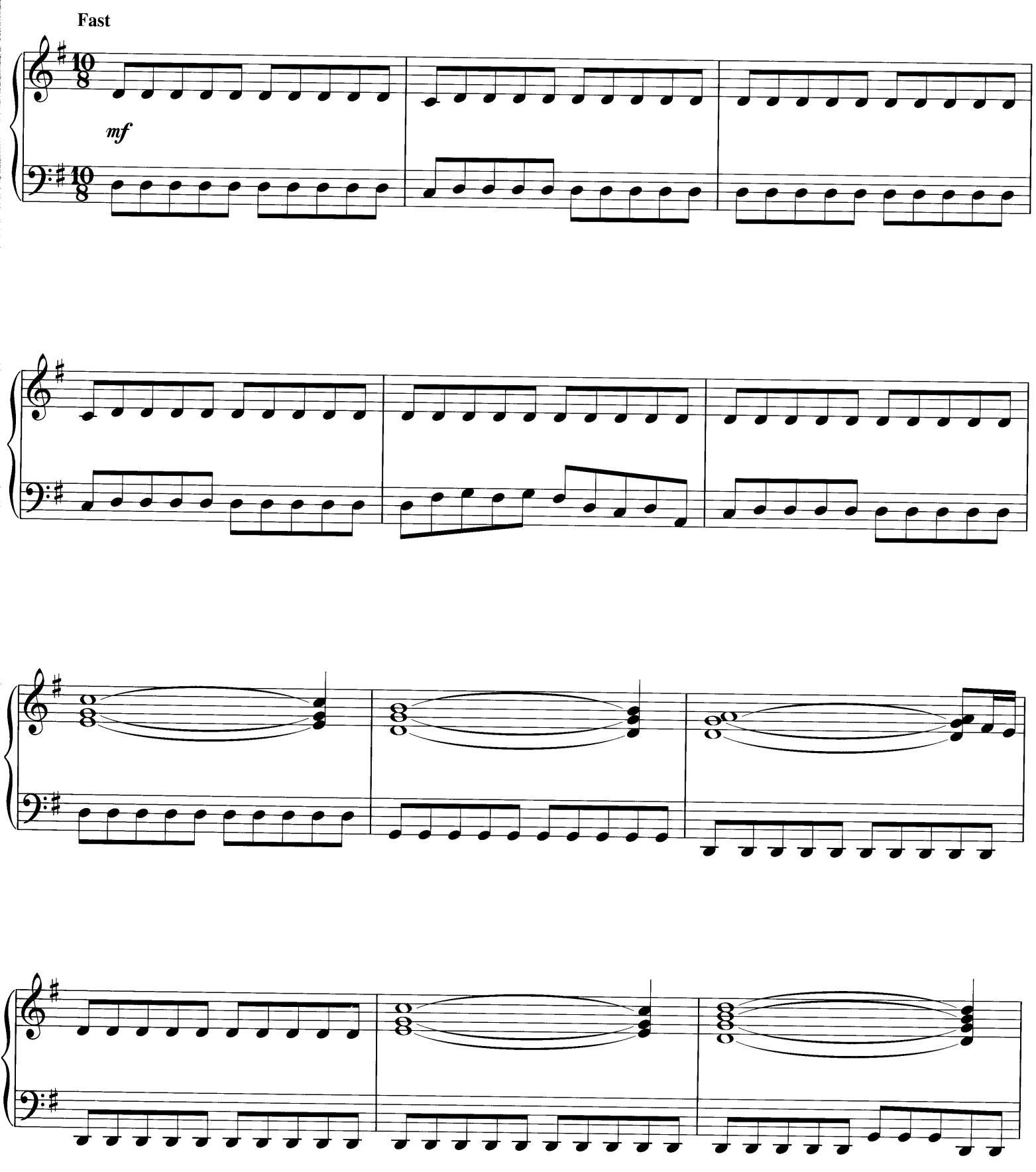





Repeat and Fade
Optional Ending

AT FIRST SIGHT

Composed by YANNI



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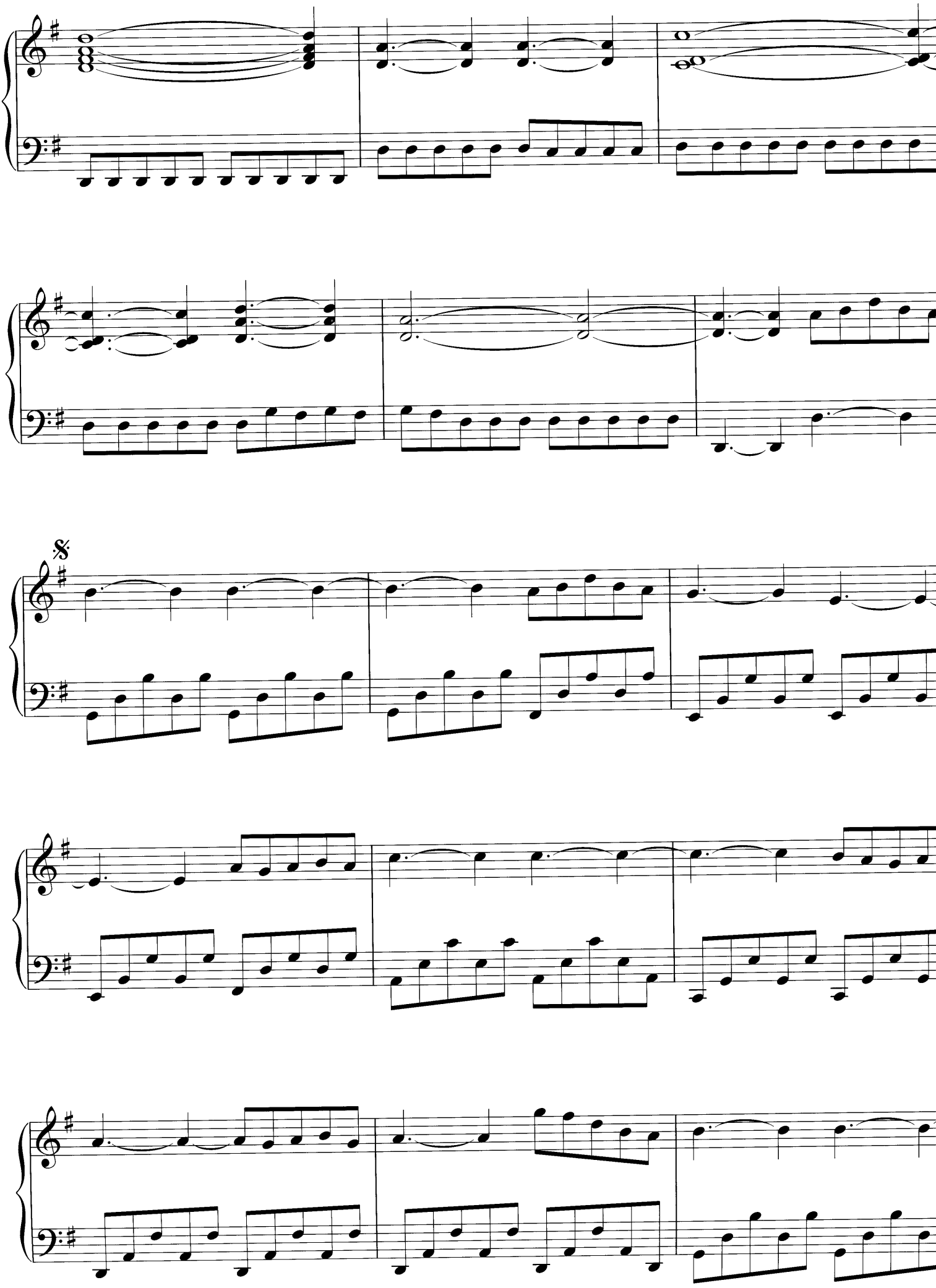
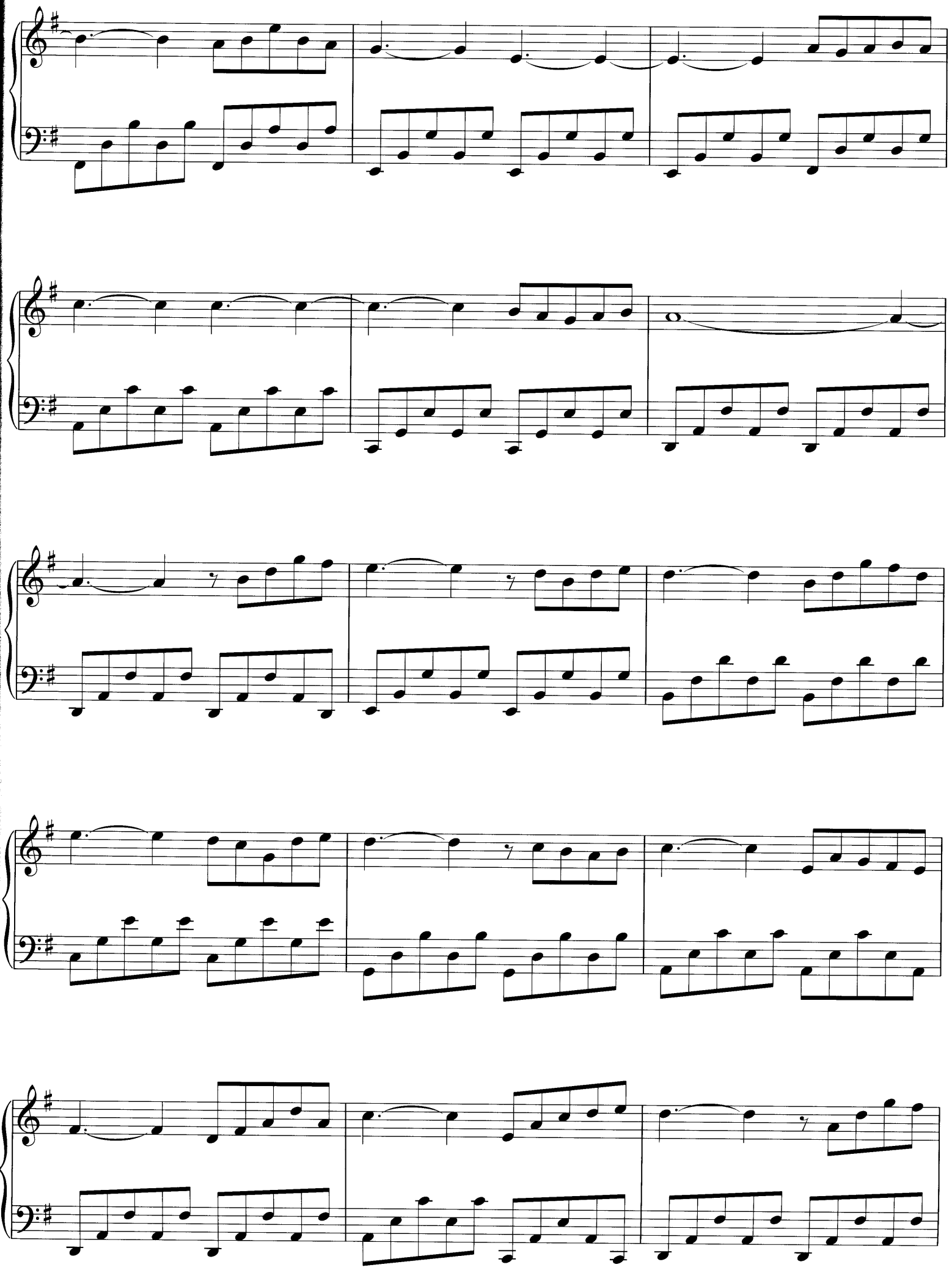
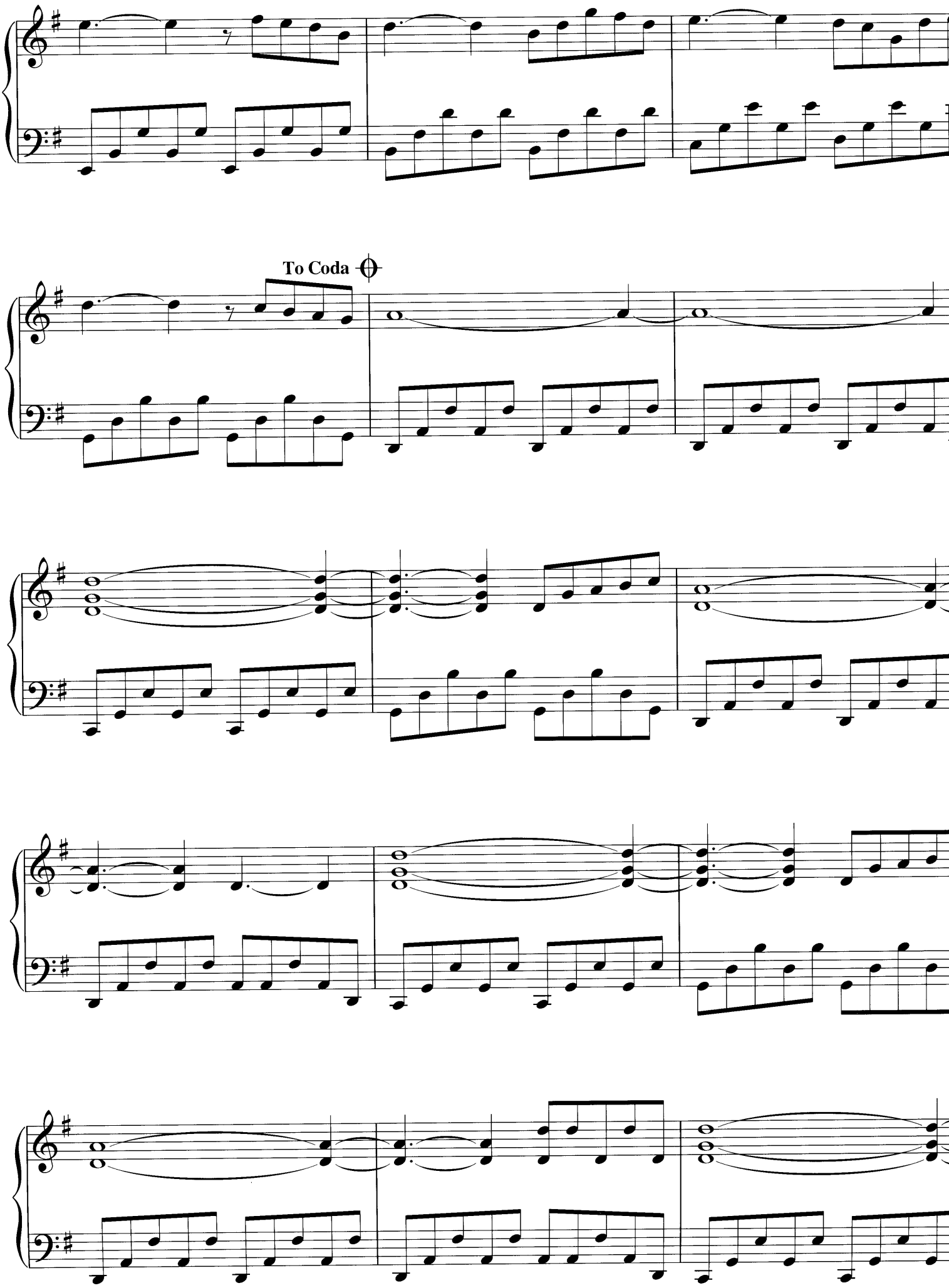
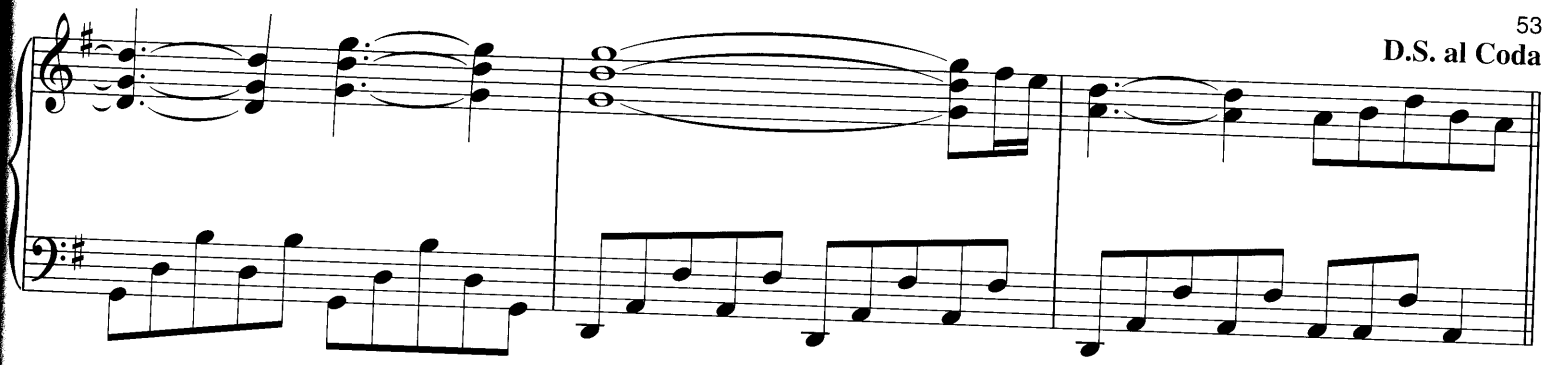


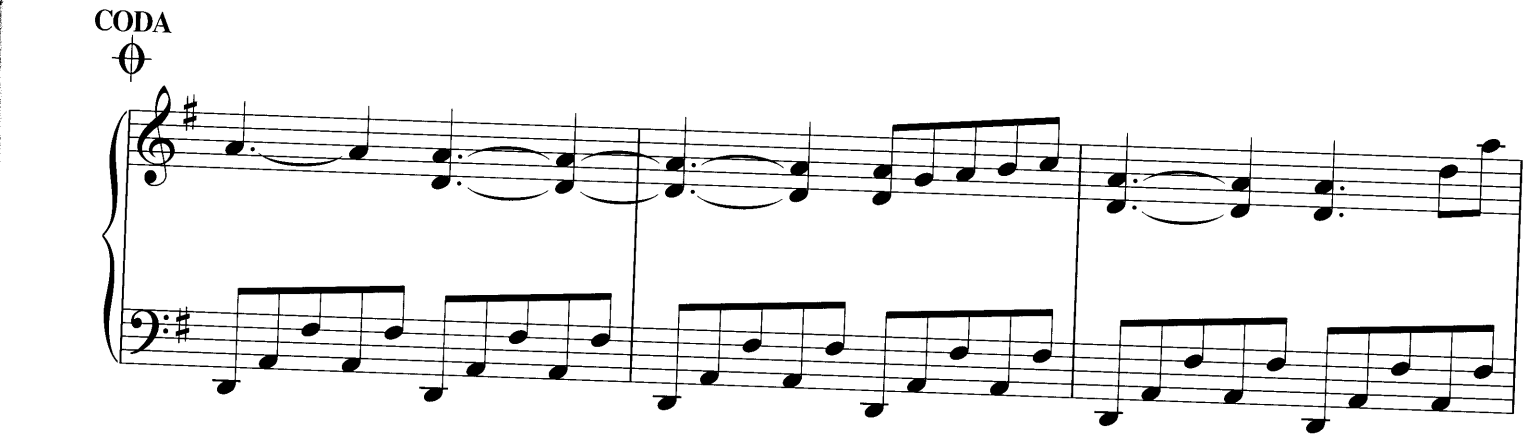


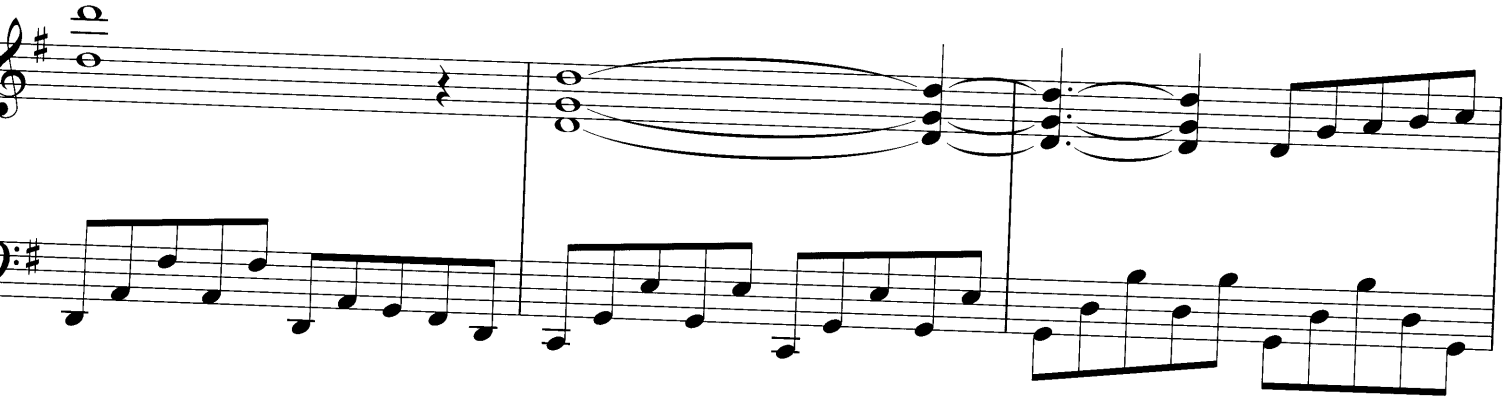

To Coda

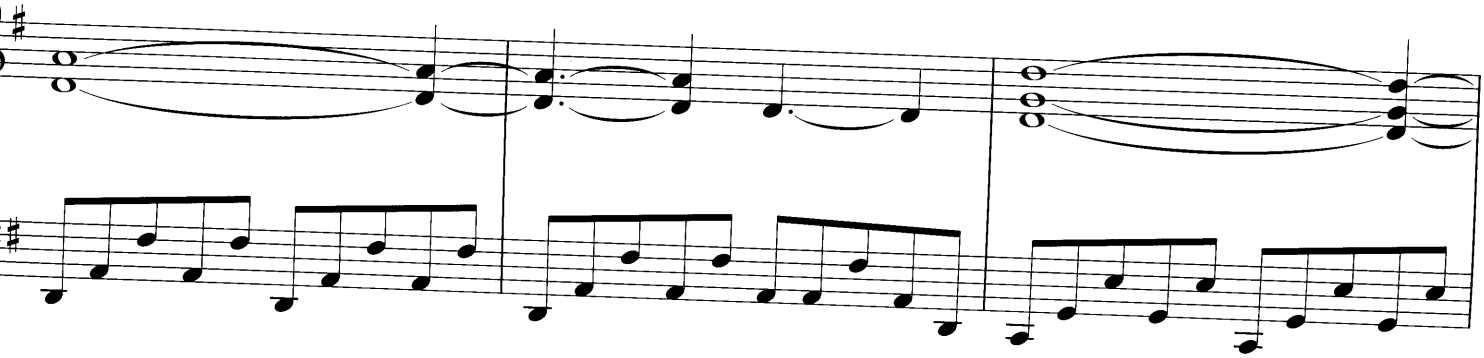
D.S. al Coda

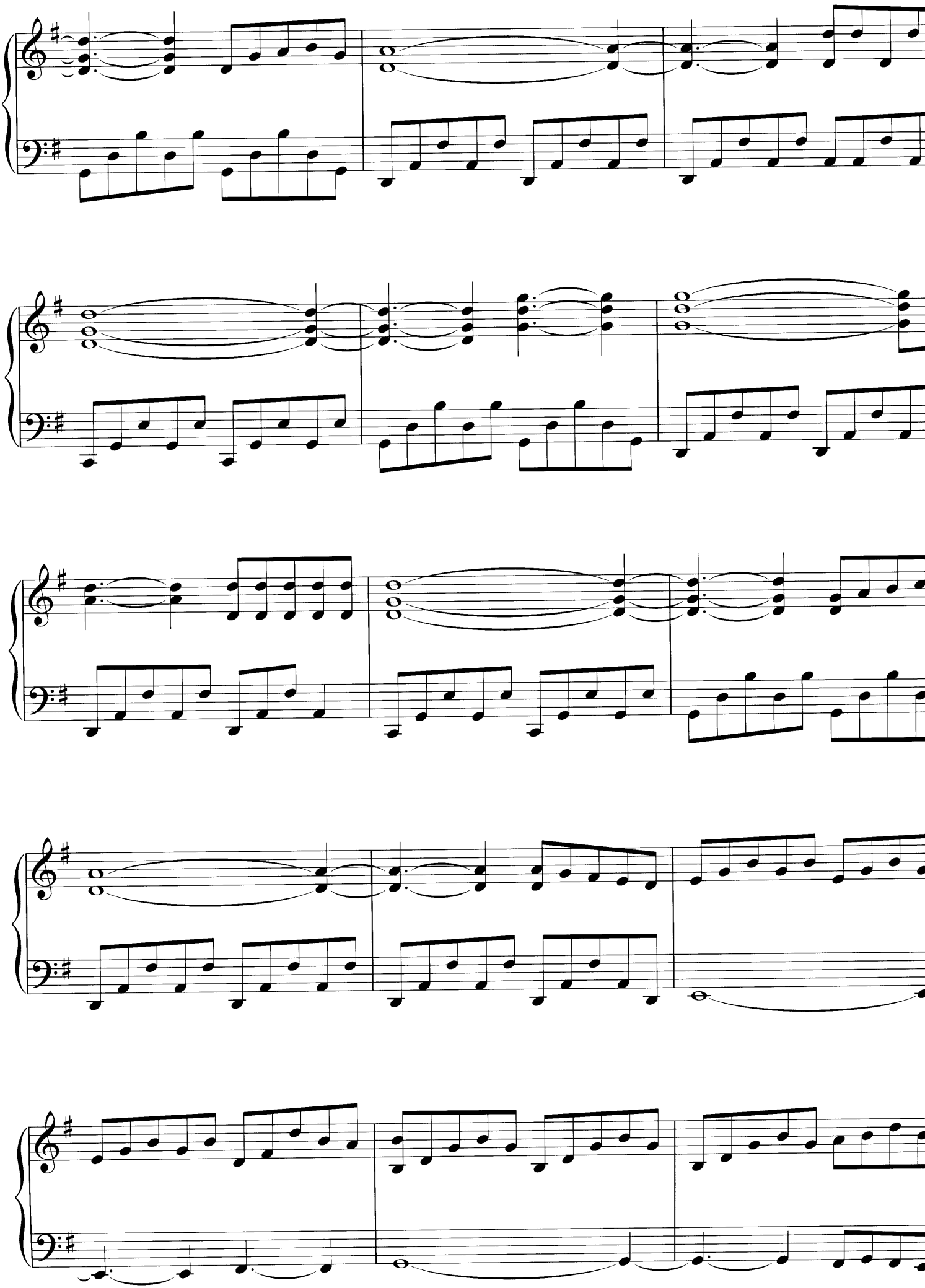


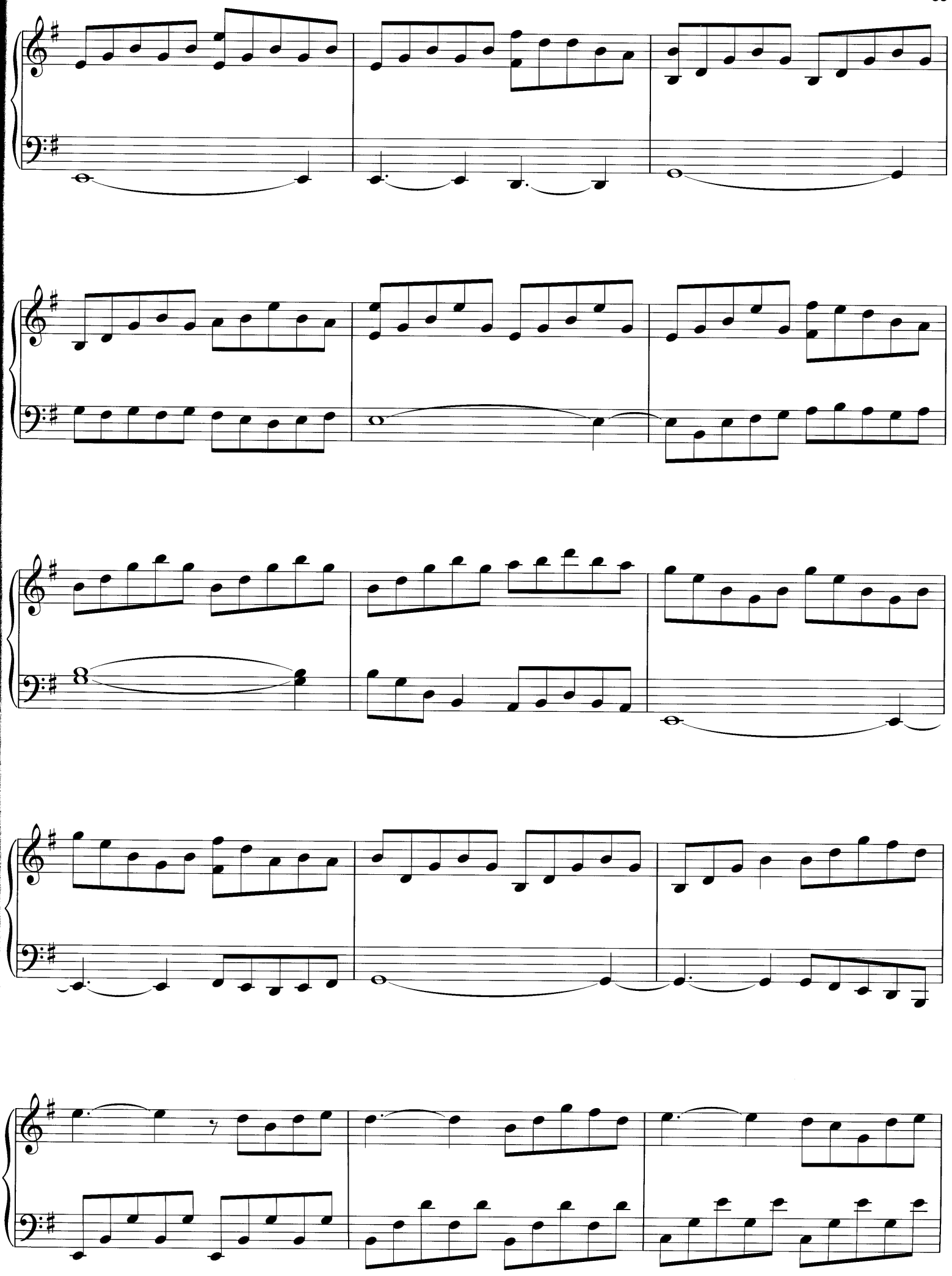
CODA

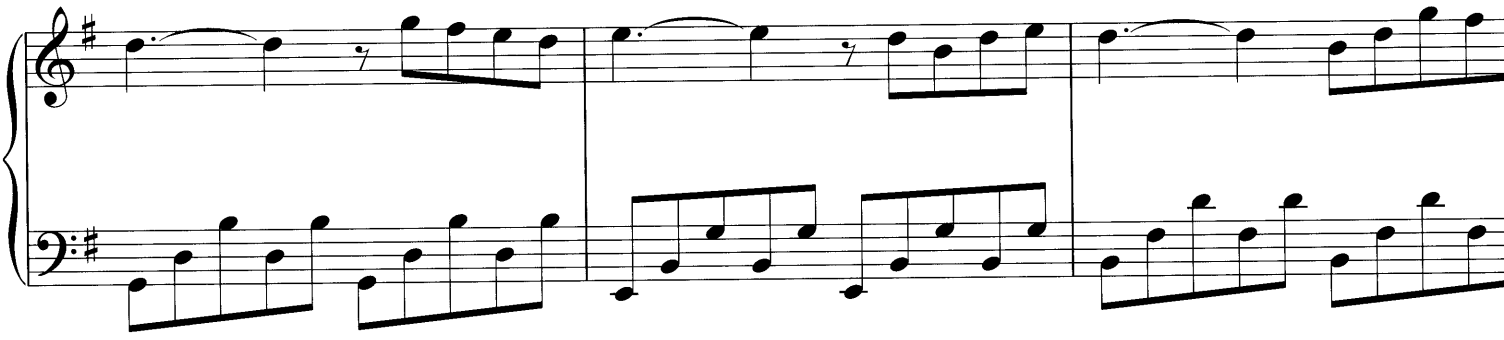


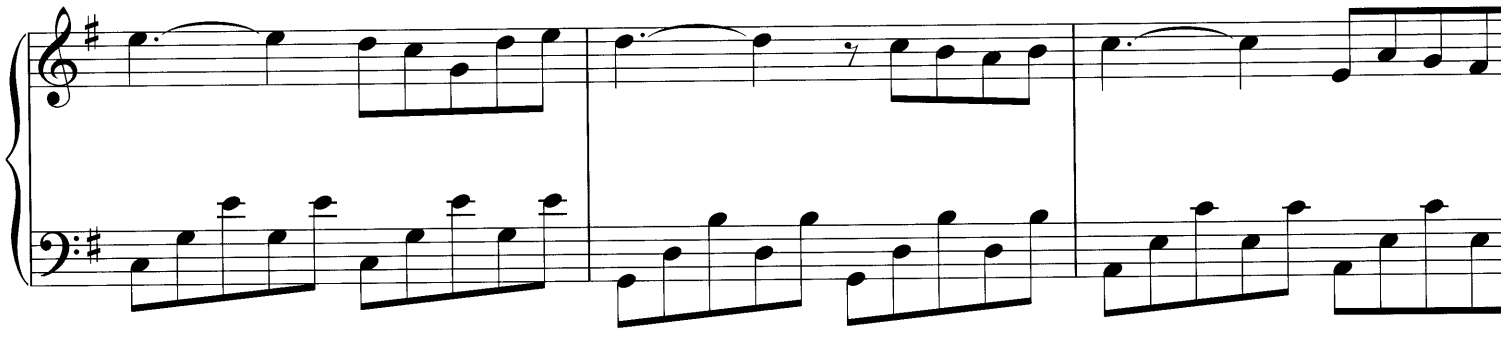


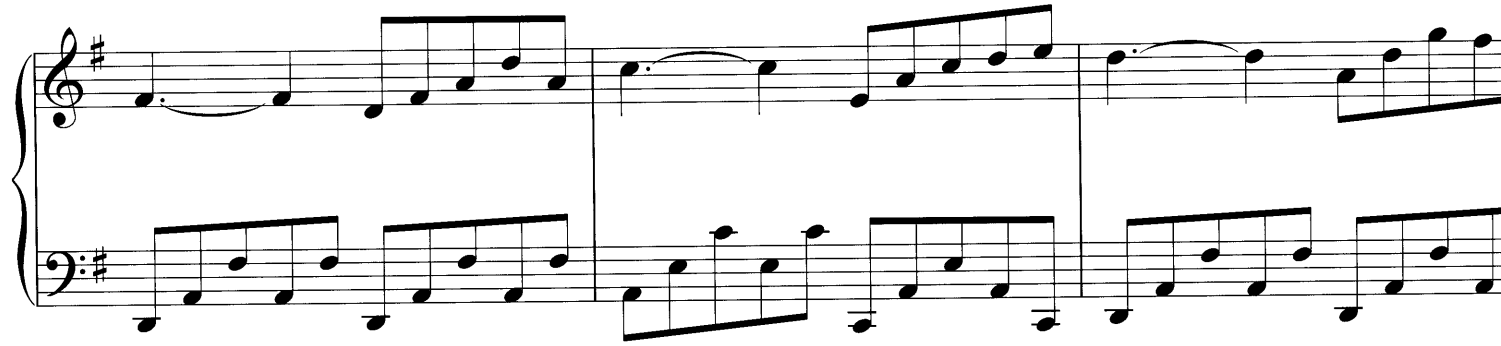


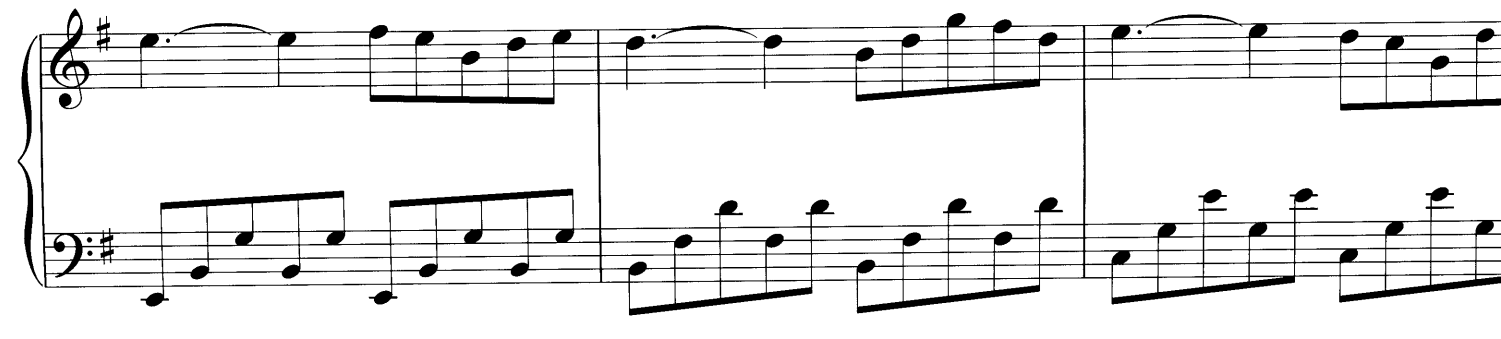


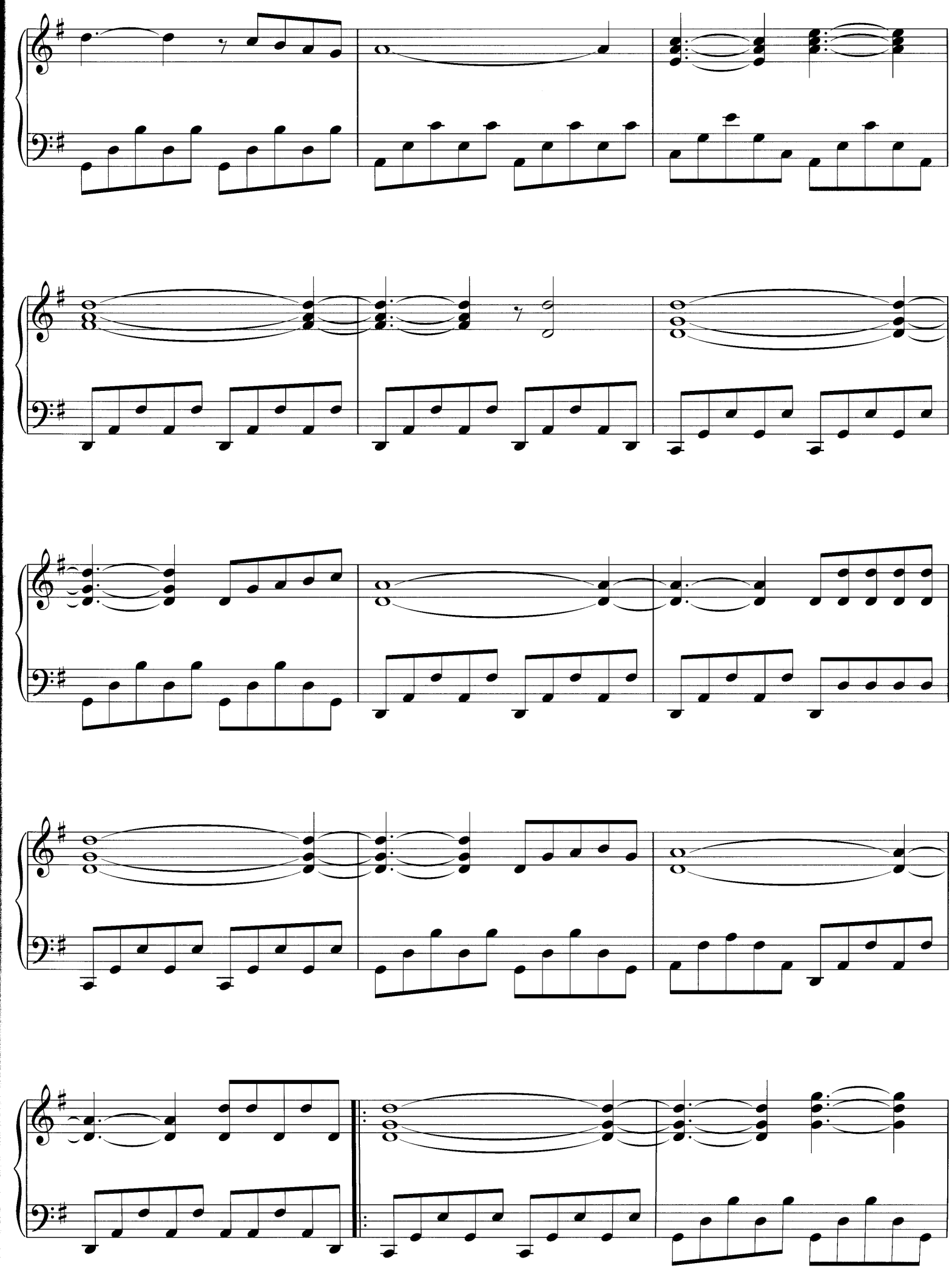


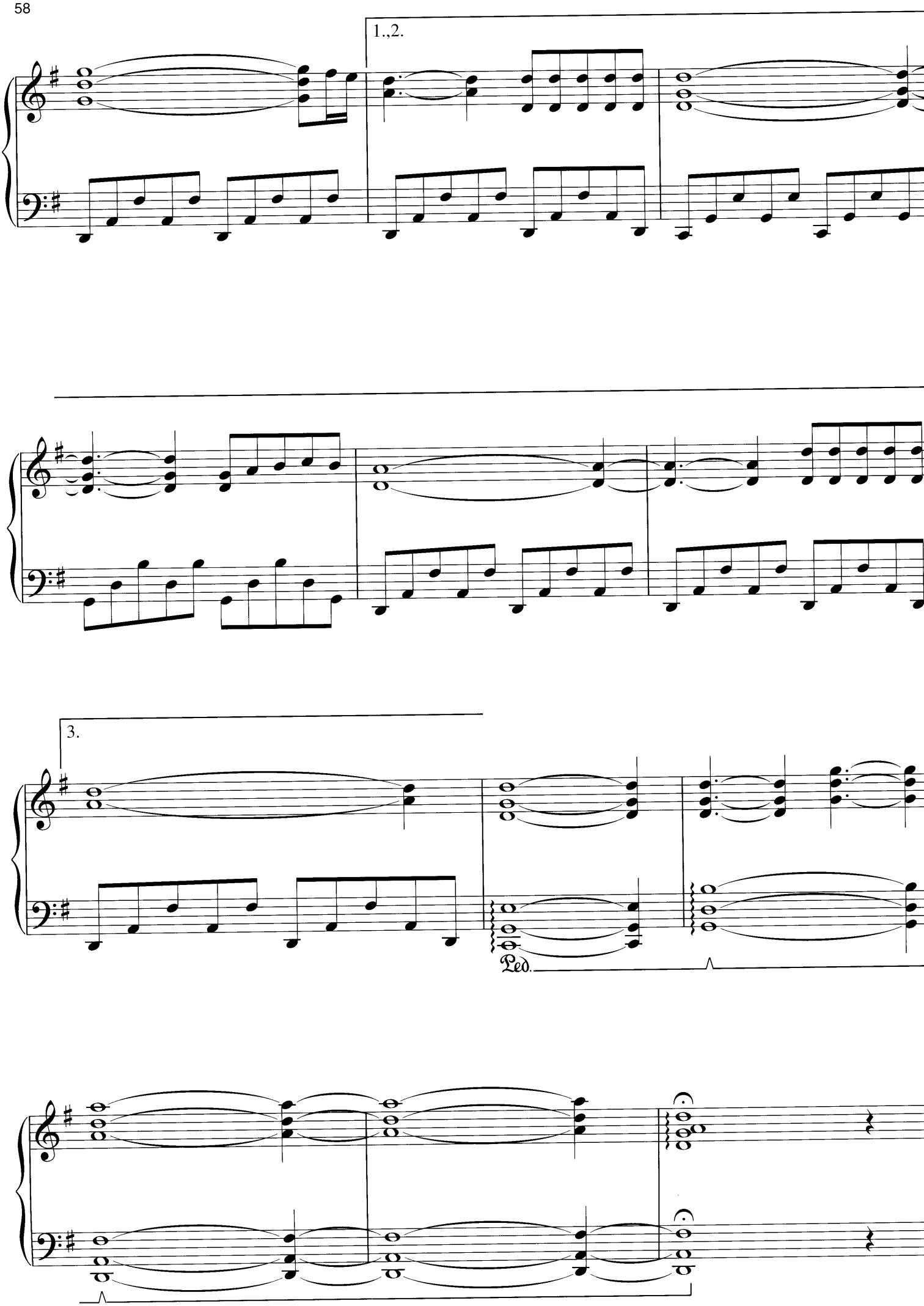








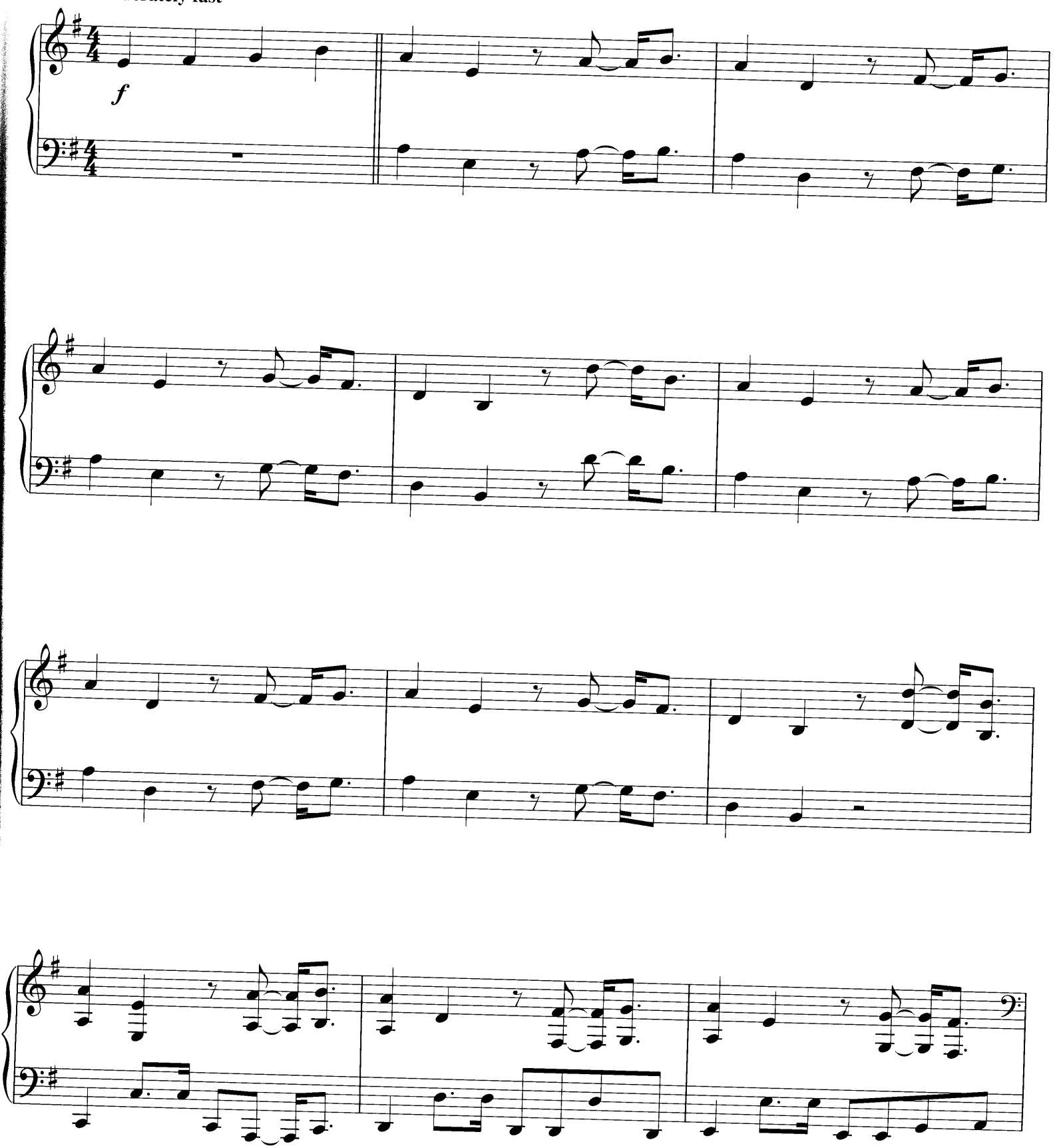



1.,2.
3.
Ped.

TRIBAL DREAM

Composed by YANNI

Moderately fast



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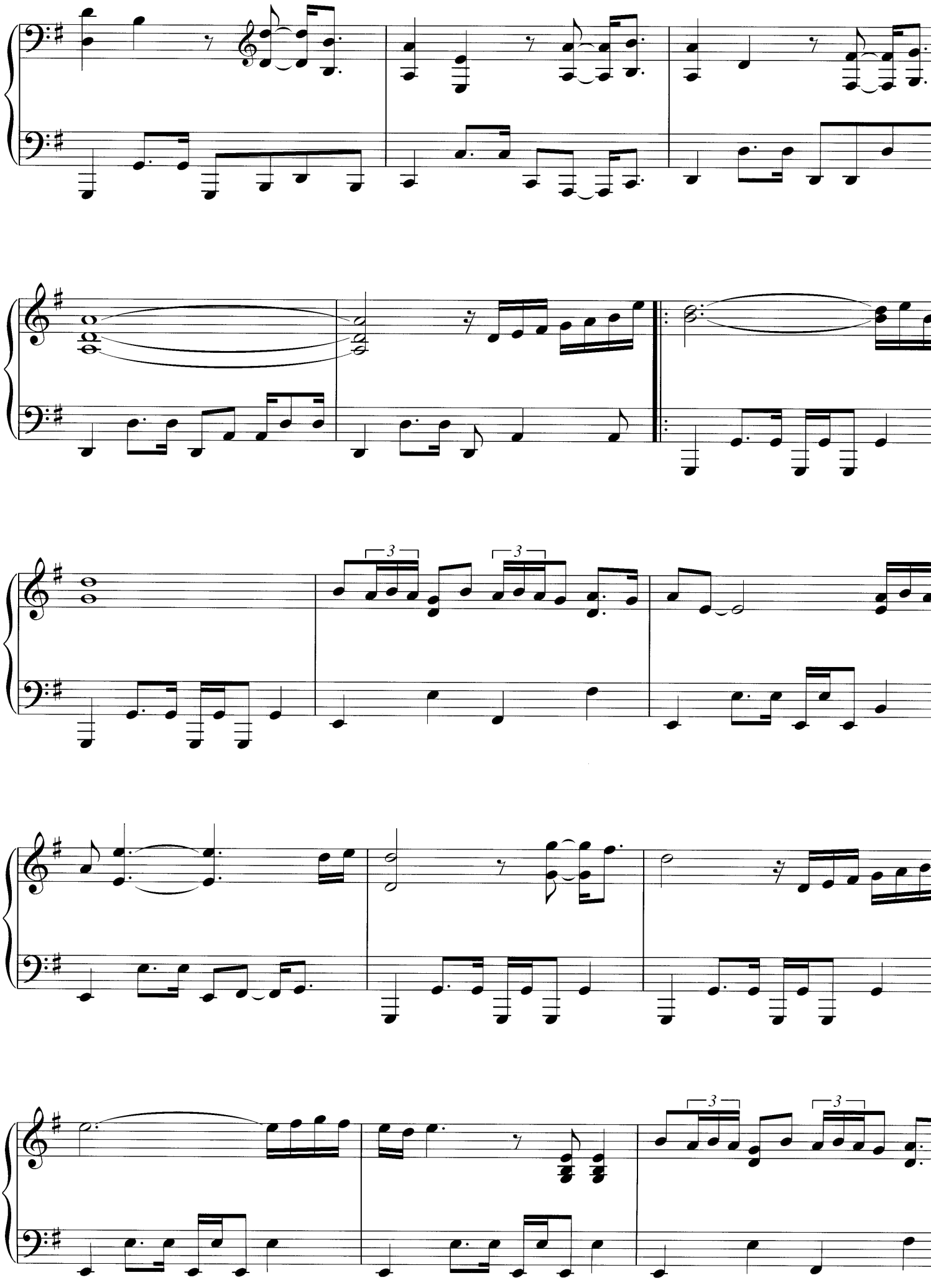
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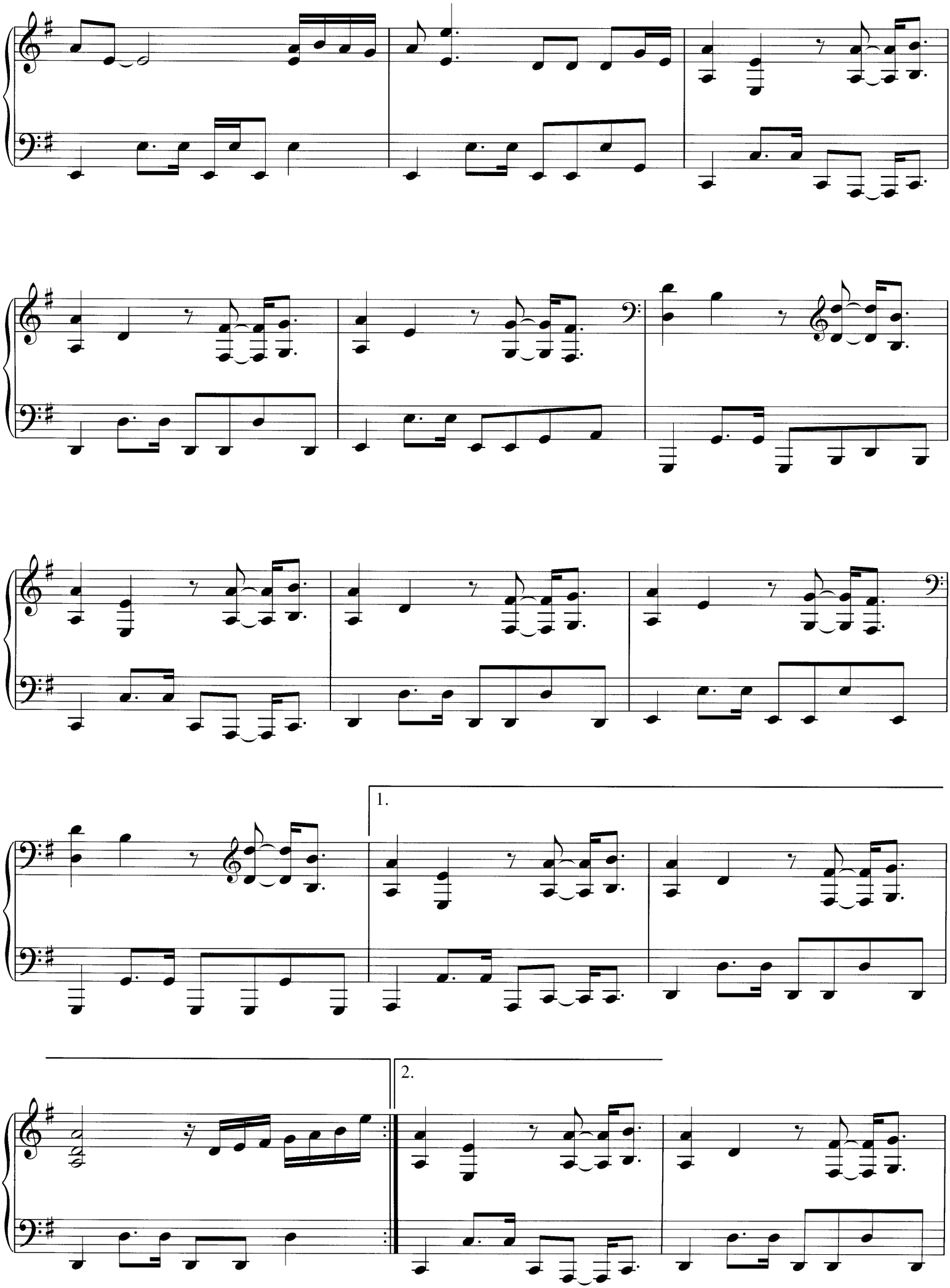
3
3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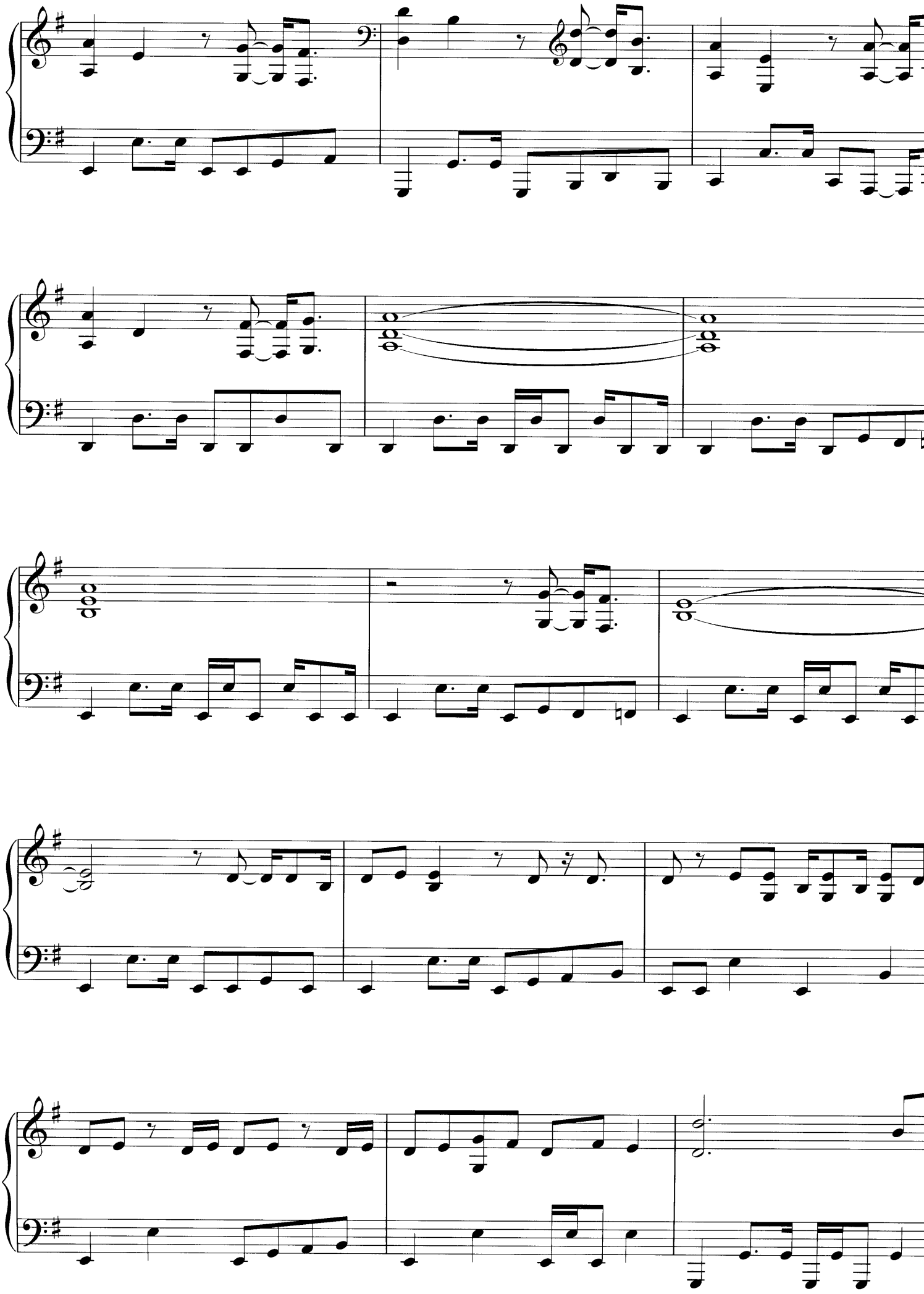

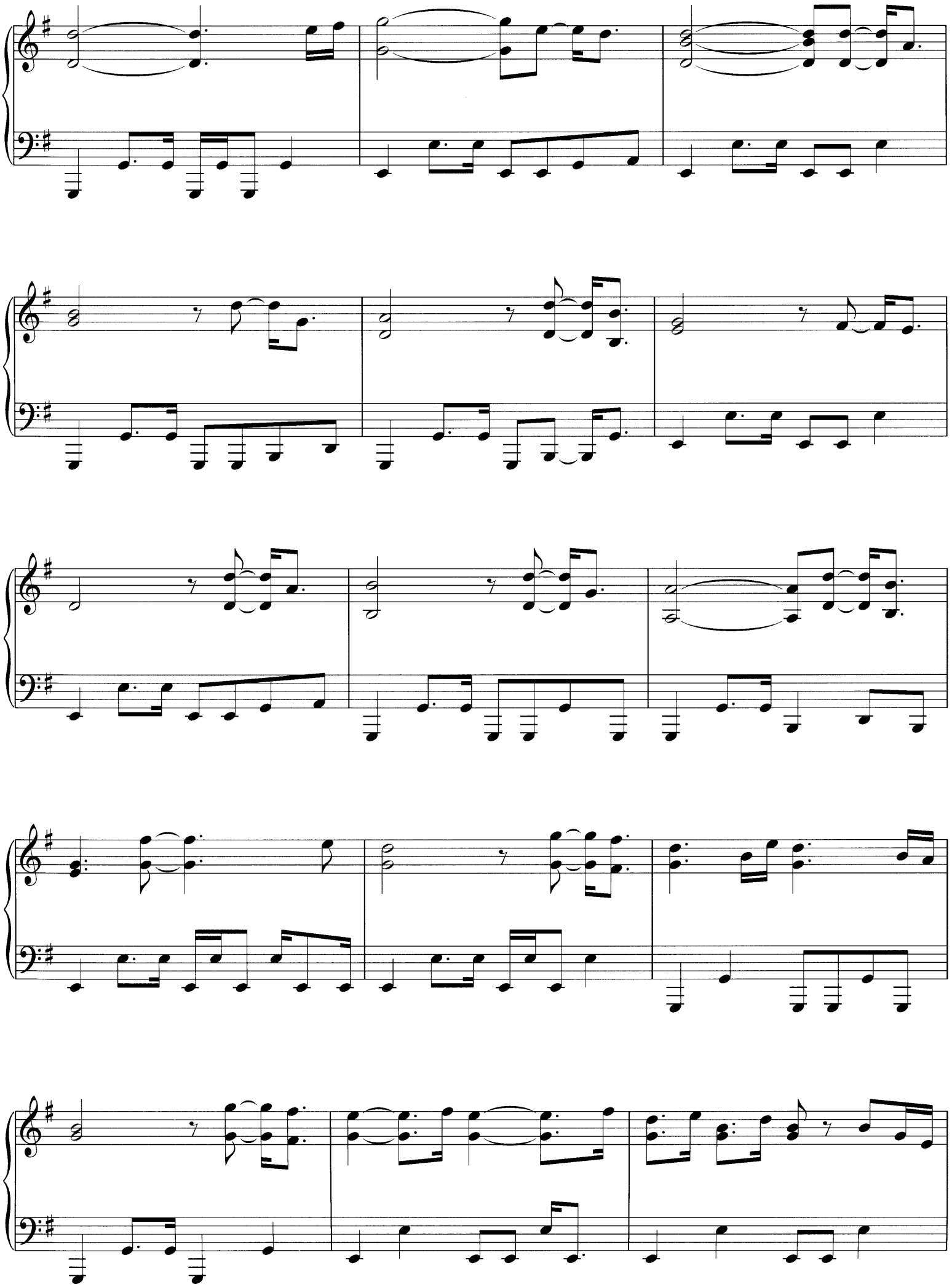

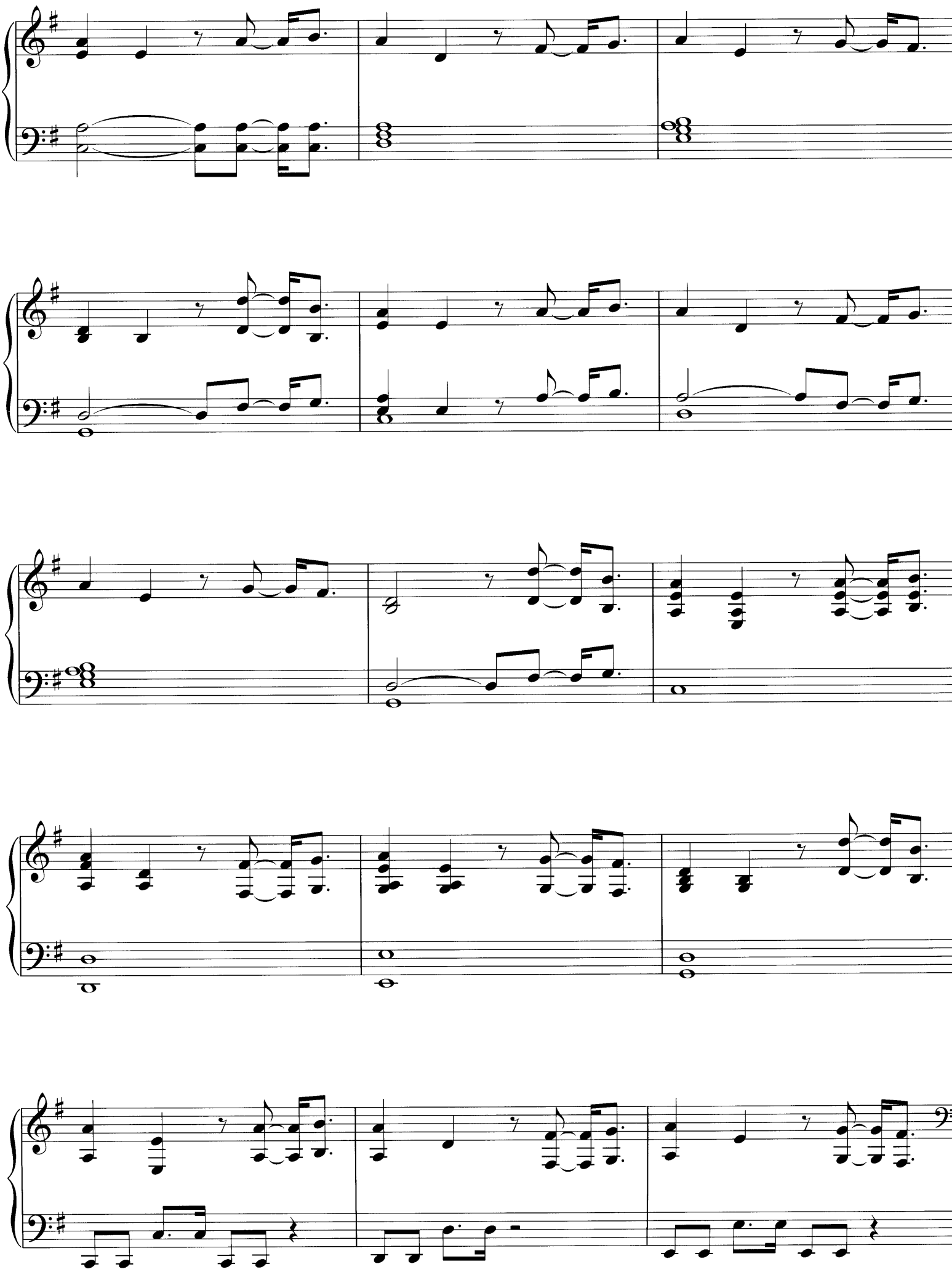

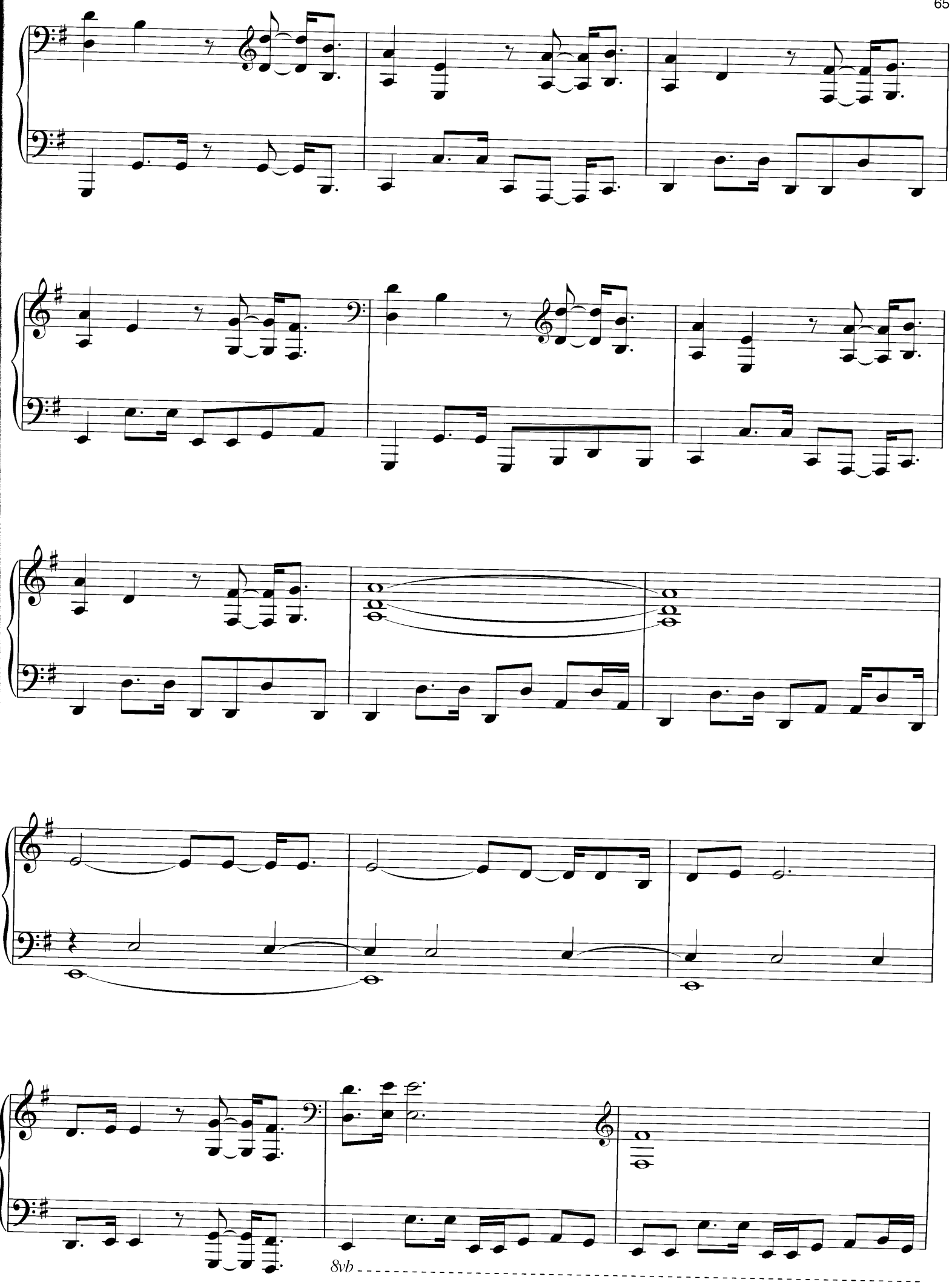
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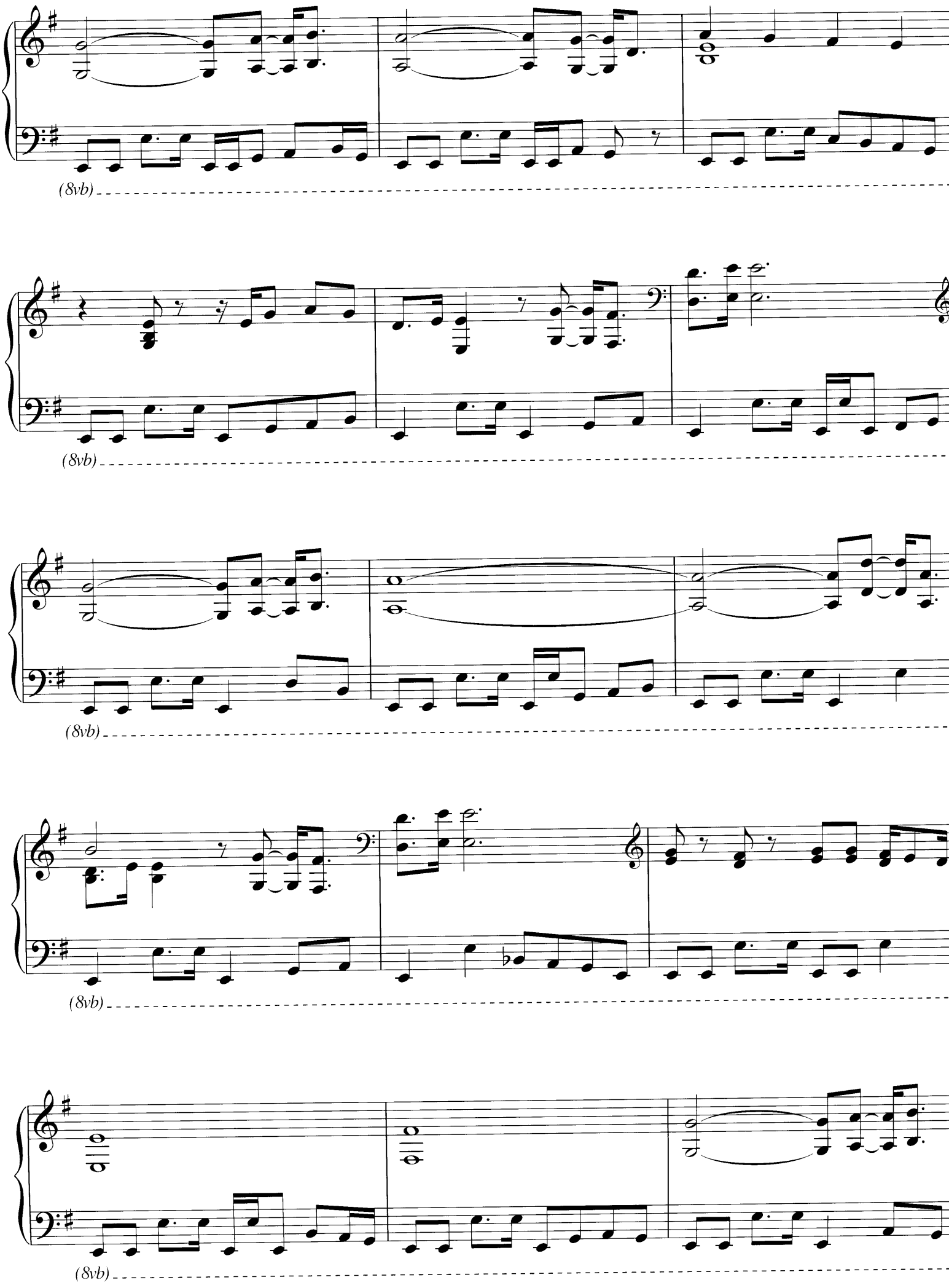
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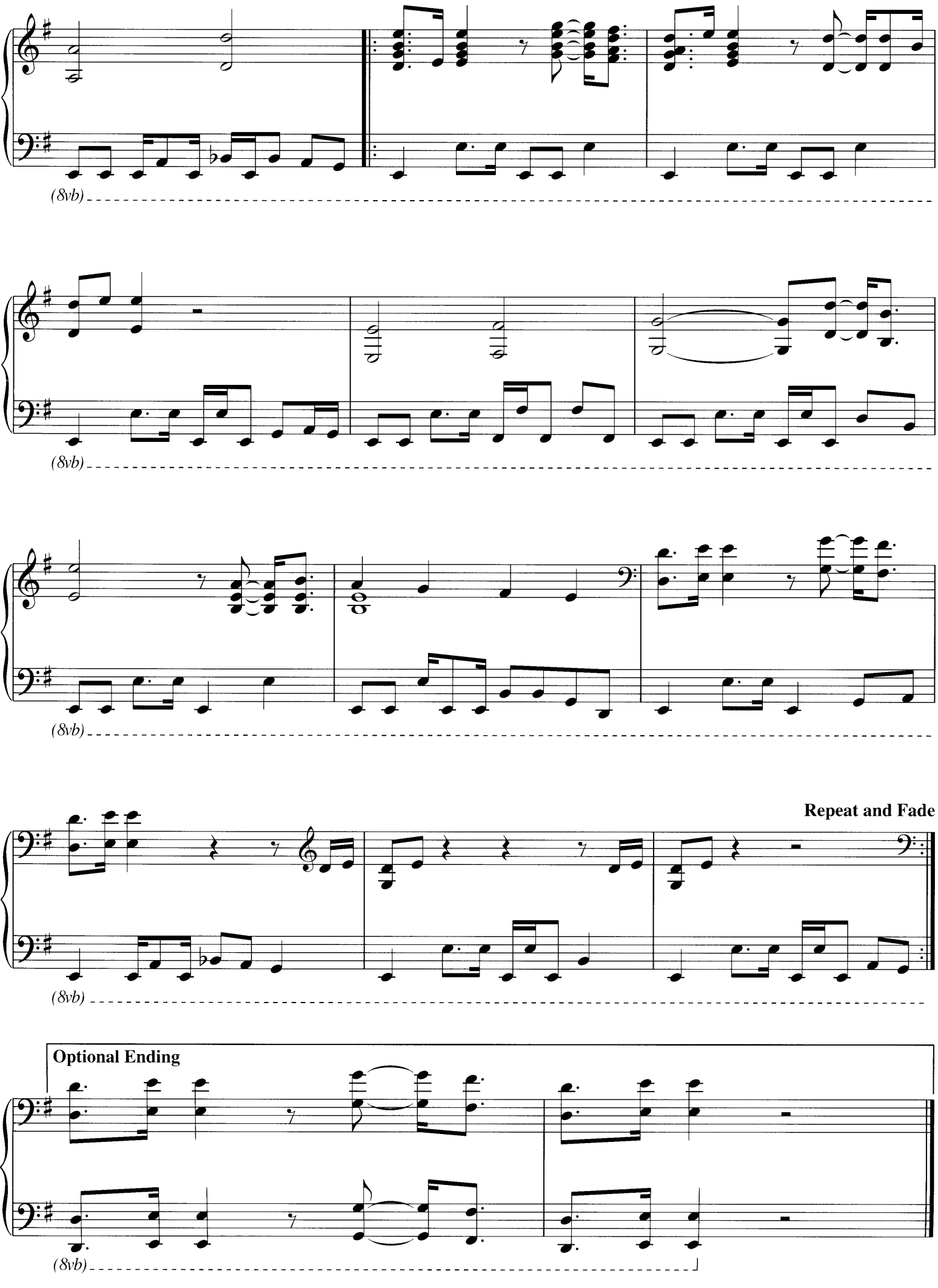
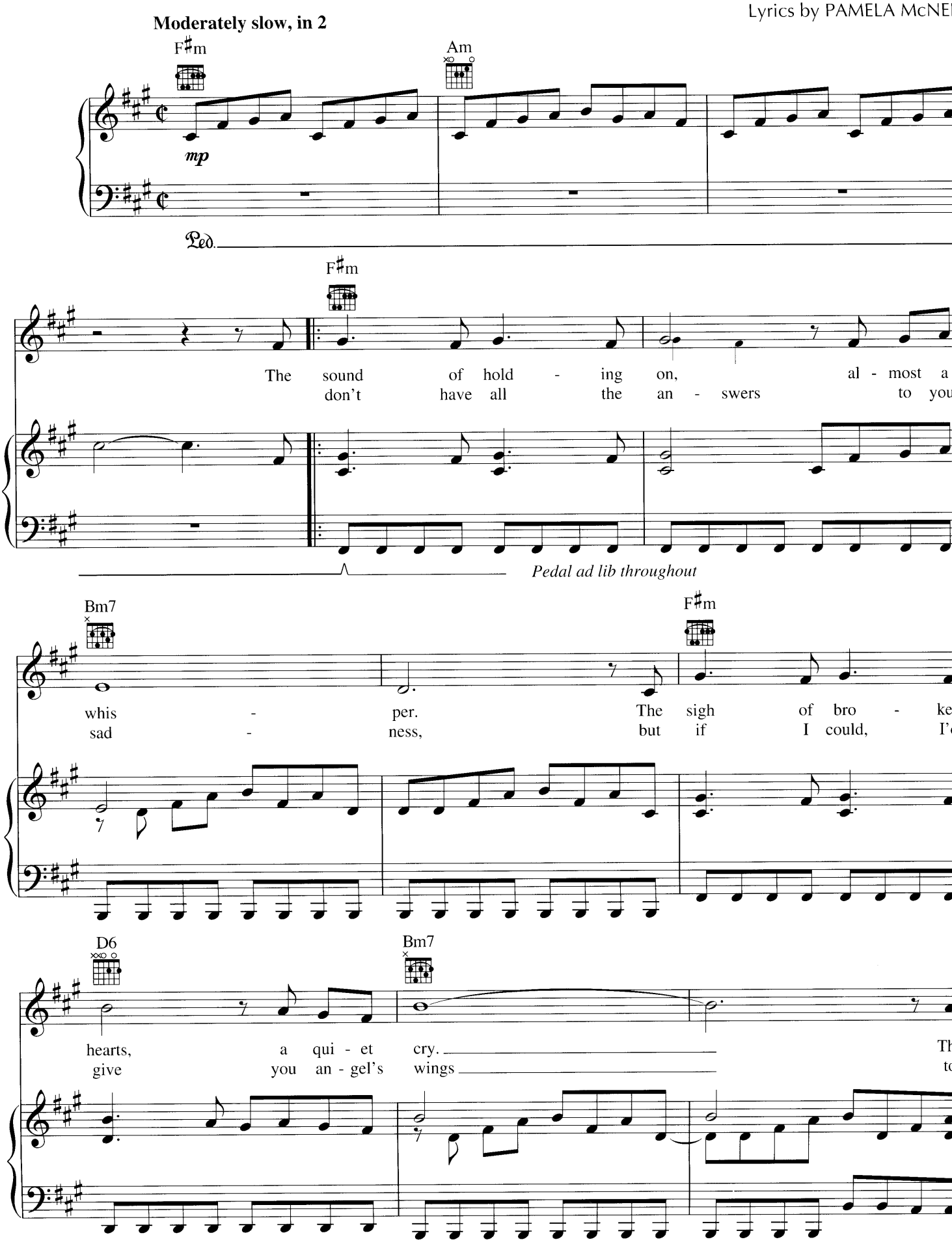

(8vb)
(8vb)
(8vb)
Repeat and Fade
(8vb)
Optional Ending
(8vb)

ALMOST A WHISPER

Composed by YAN
Lyrics by PAMELA McNE



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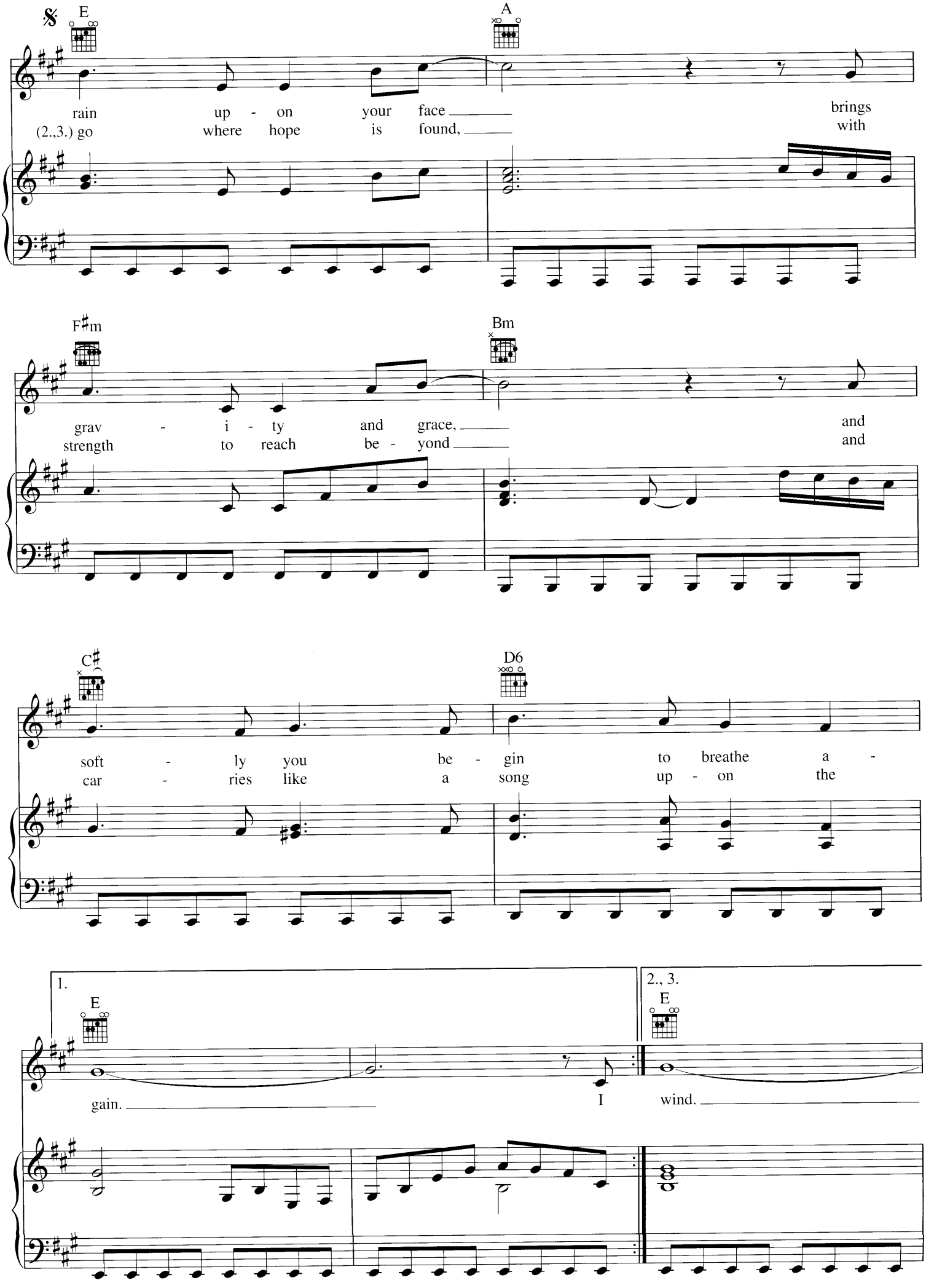
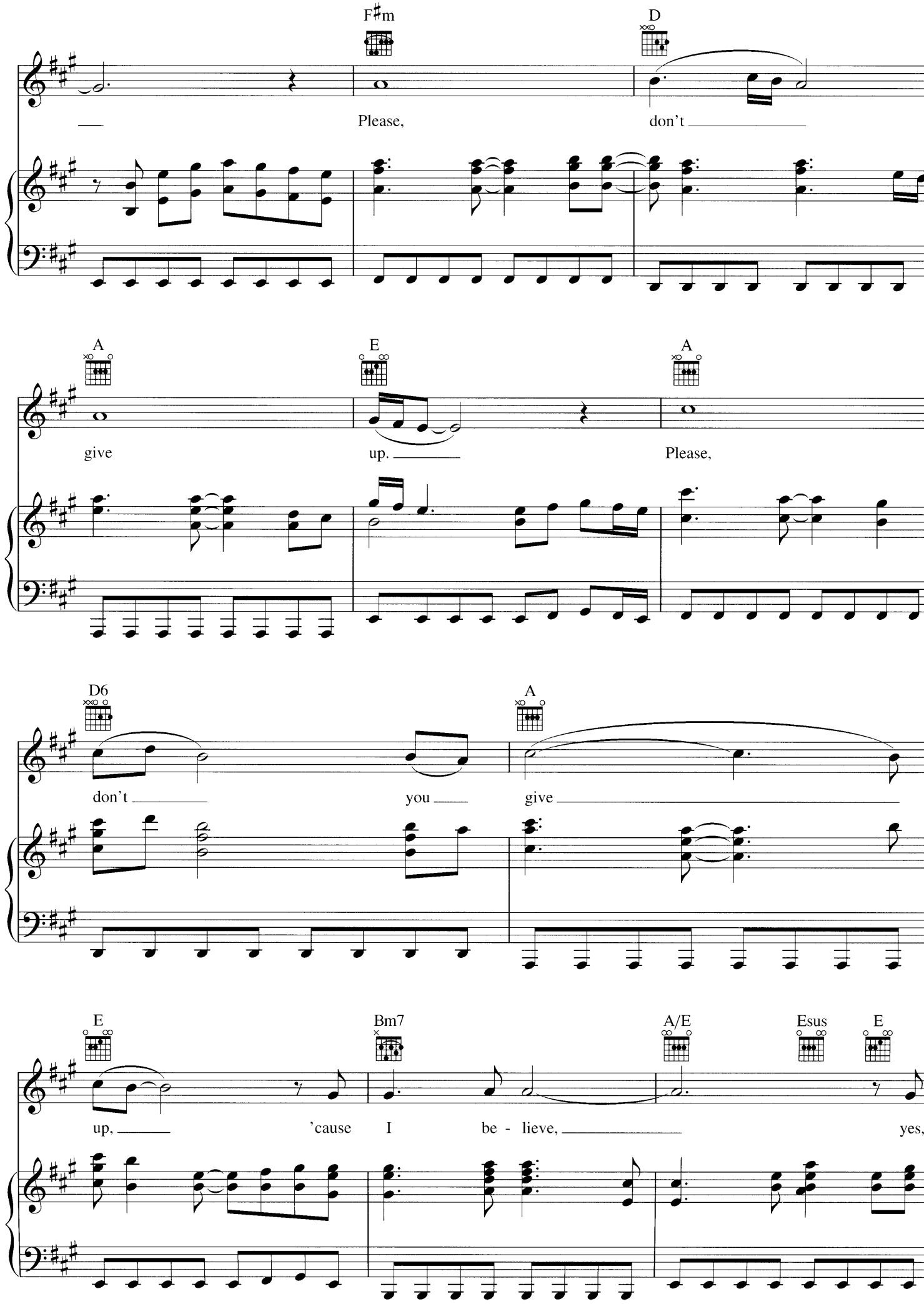
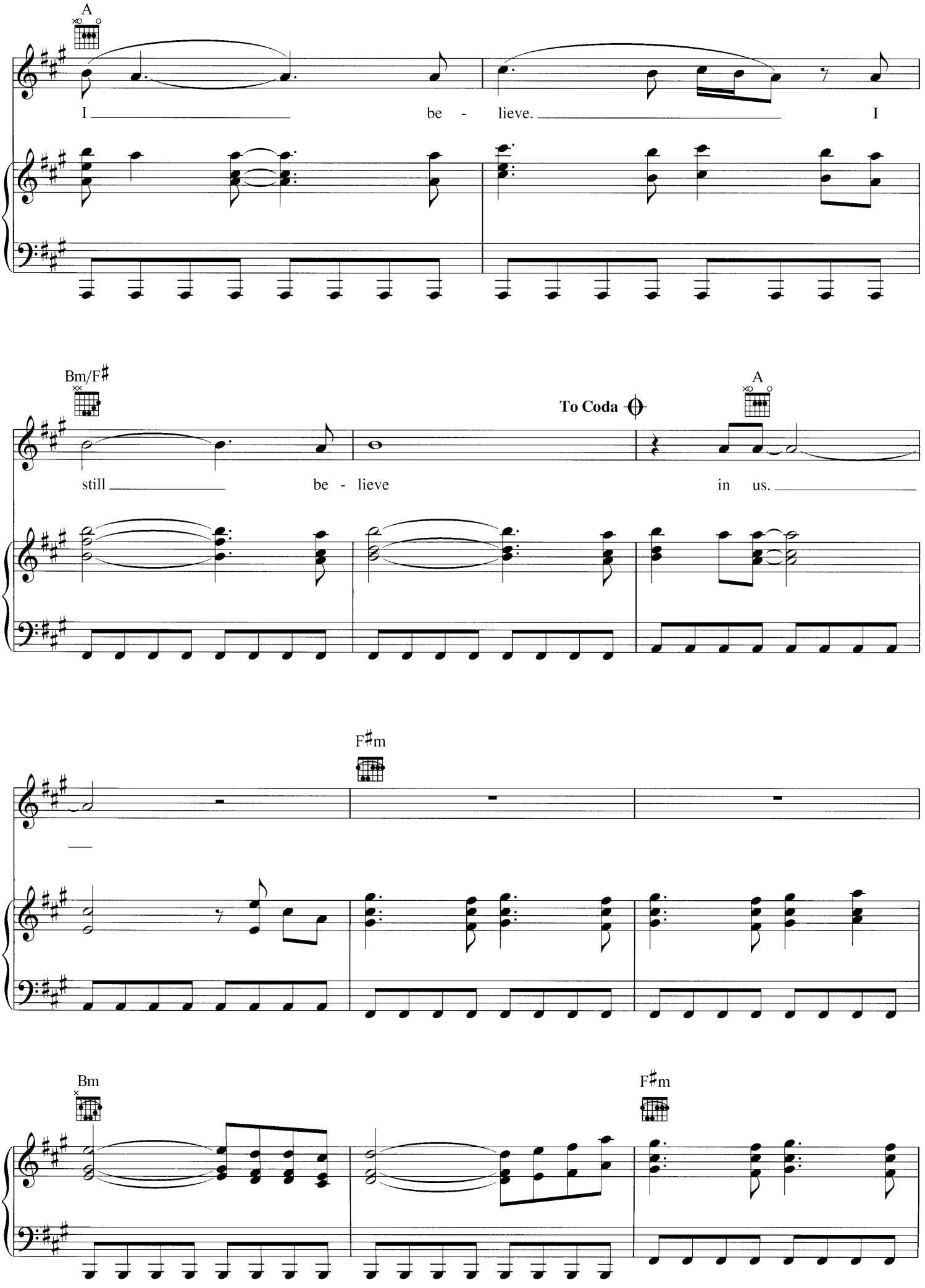
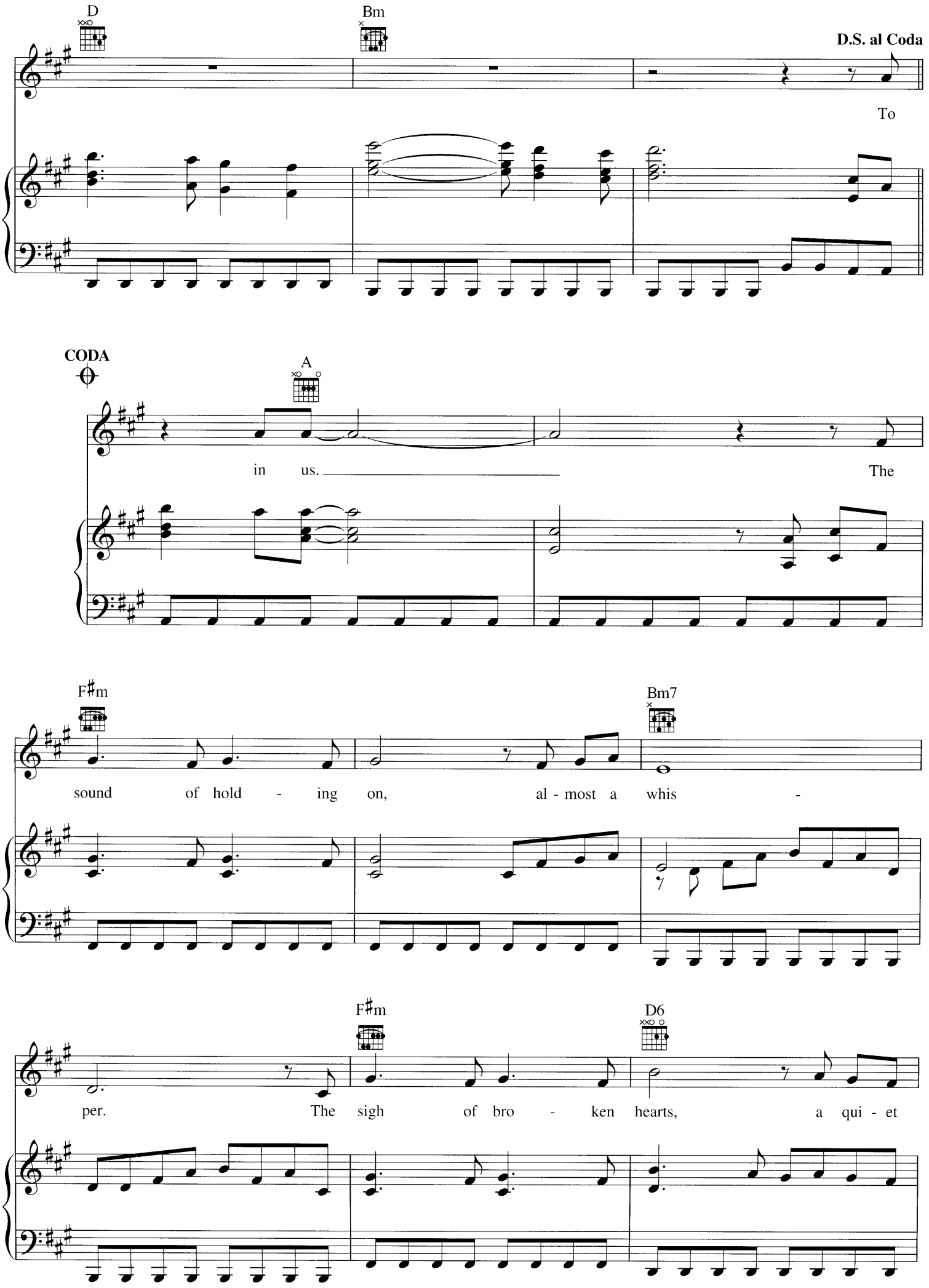
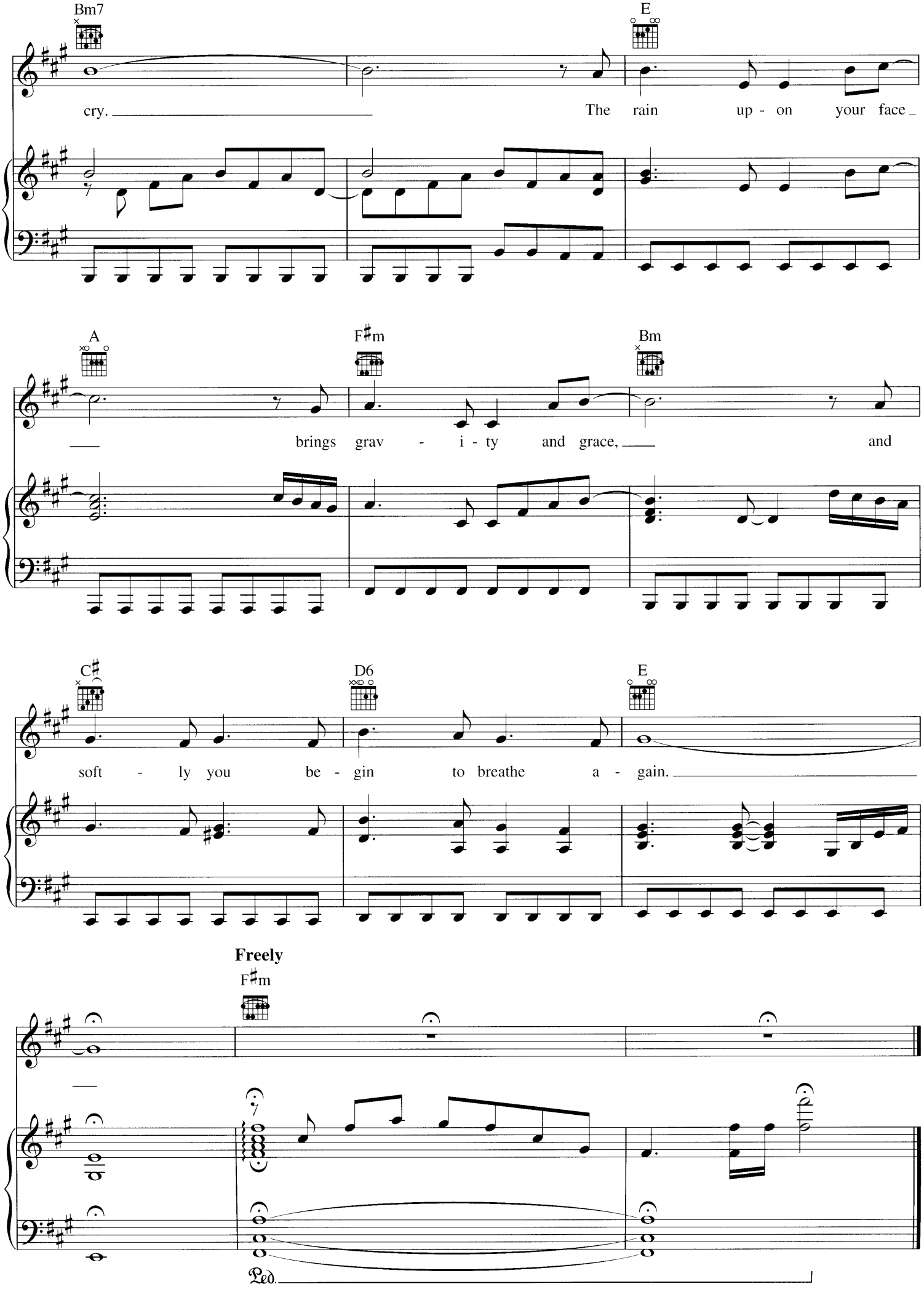

E
A
rain up - on your face
brings
(2.,3.) go where hope is found,
with
F♯m
Bm
grav - i - ty and grace,
and
strength to reach be - yond
and
C♯
D6
soft - ly you be - gin to breathe a -
car - ries like a song up - on the
1.
E
2., 3.
E
gain.
I
wind.


F♯m
D
Please,
don't
A
E
A
give
up.
Please,
D6
A
don't
you
give
E
Bm7
A/E
Esus
E
up,
'cause
I
be - lieve,
yes,

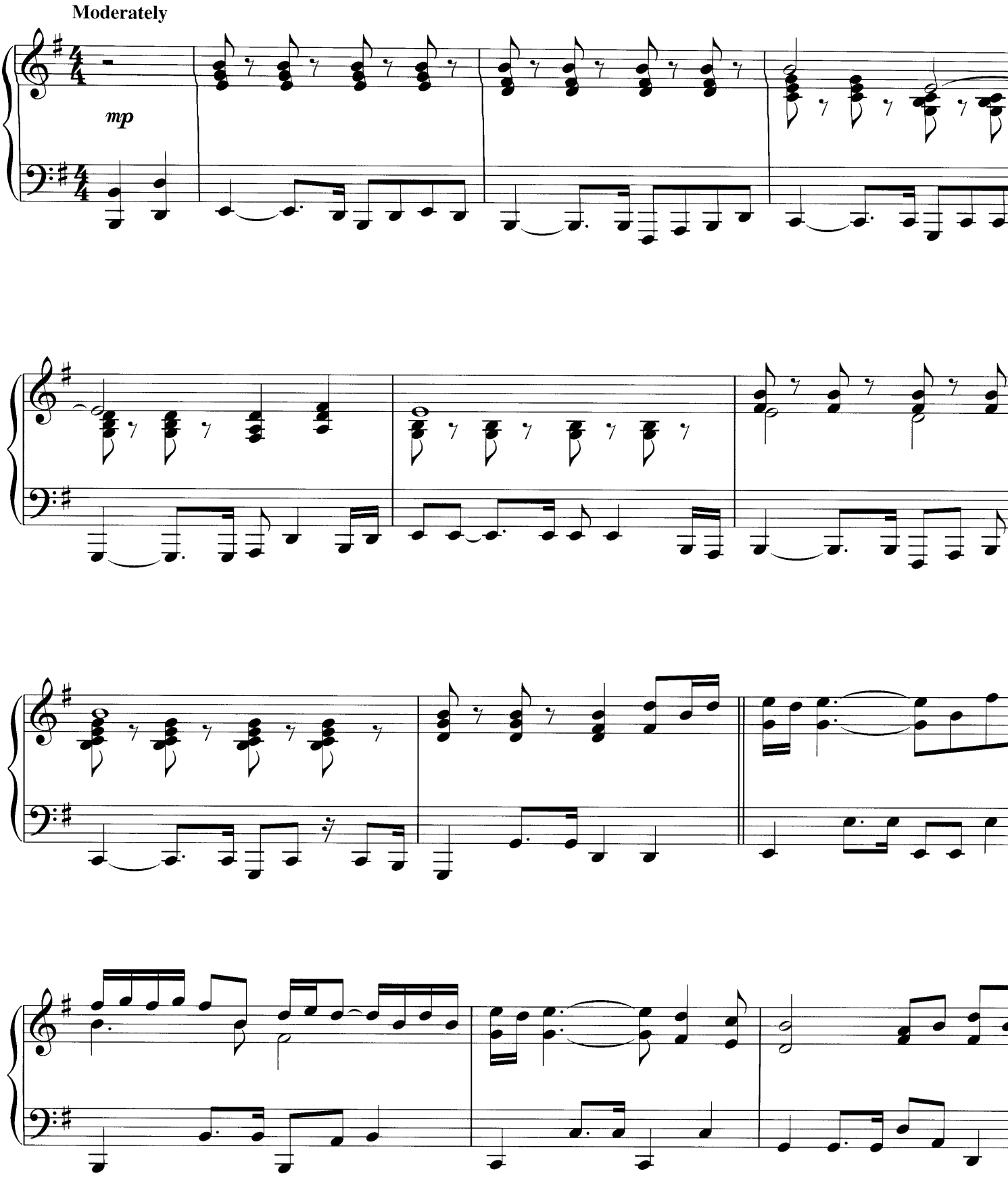

A
I be - lieve. I
Bm/F♯
To Coda
A
still be - lieve in us.
F♯m
Bm
F♯m


D
Bm
D.S. al Coda
To
CODA
A
in us.
The
F♯m
Bm7
sound of hold - ing on, al - most a whis -
F♯m
D6
per. The sigh of bro - ken hearts, a qui - et


Bm7
E
cry.
The rain up - on your face
A
F♯m
Bm
brings grav - i - ty and grace,
and
C♯
D6
E
soft - ly you be - gin to breathe a - gain.
Freely
F♯m
Ped.

NEVER TOO LATE

Composed by YA



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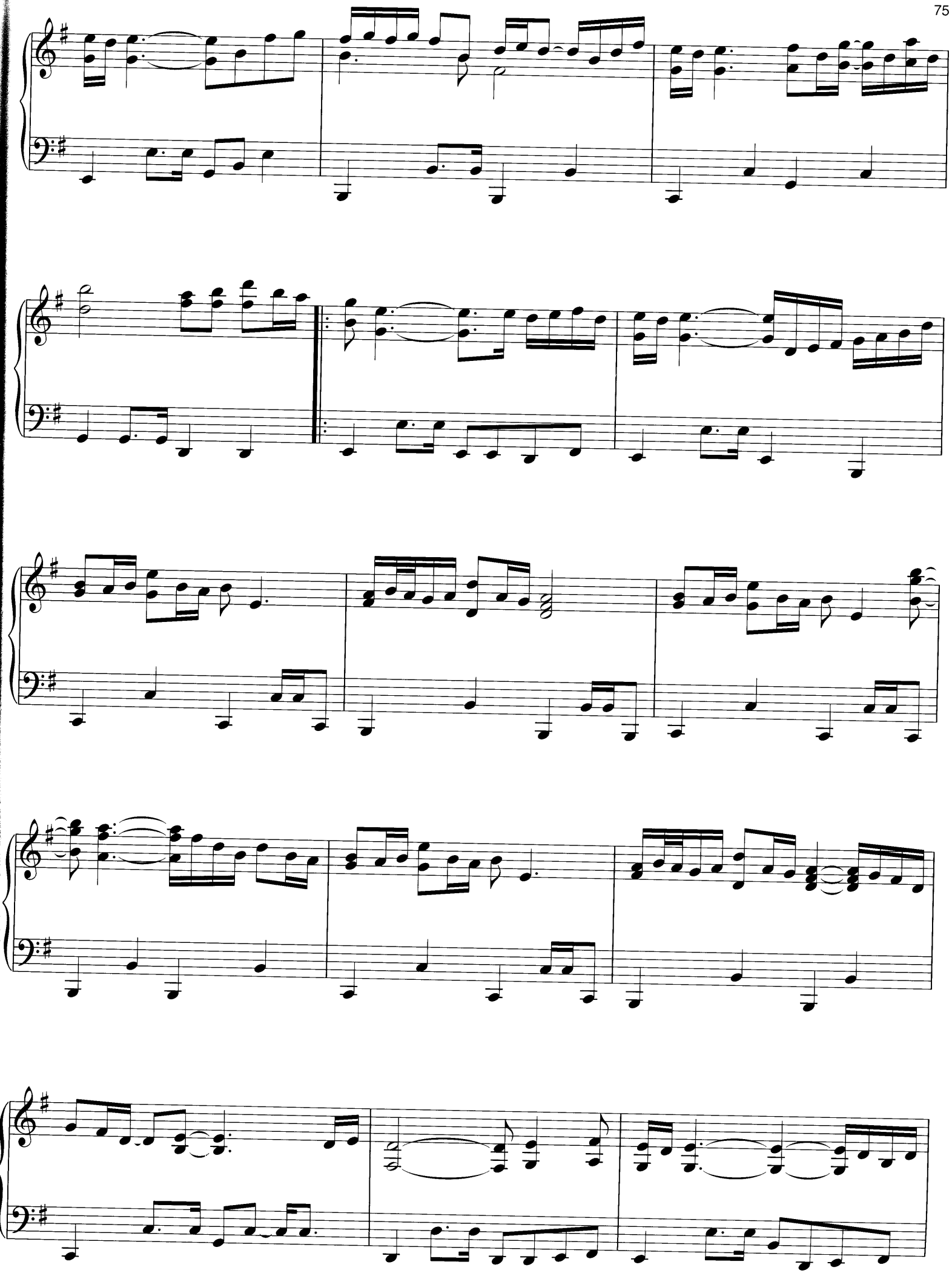
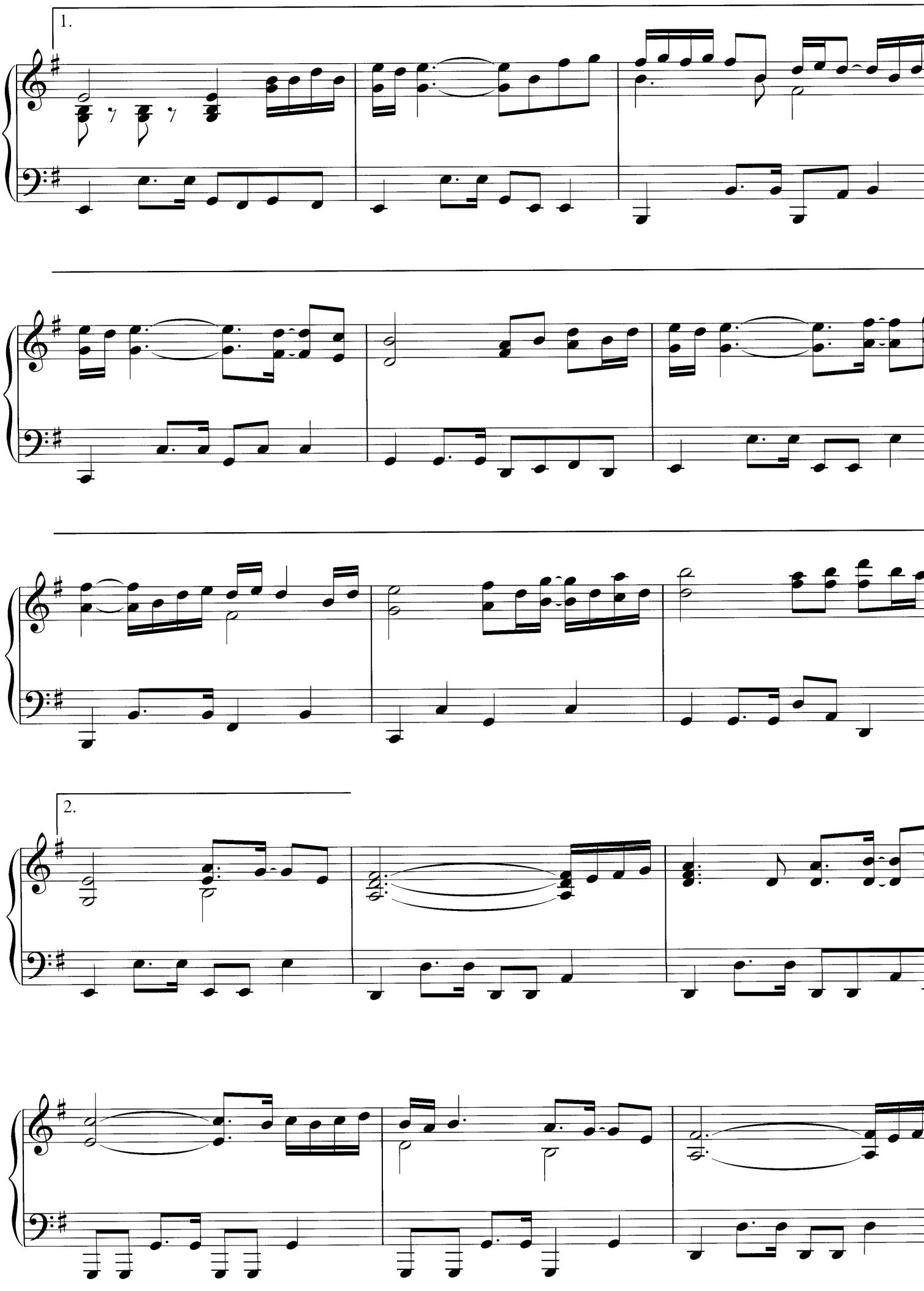
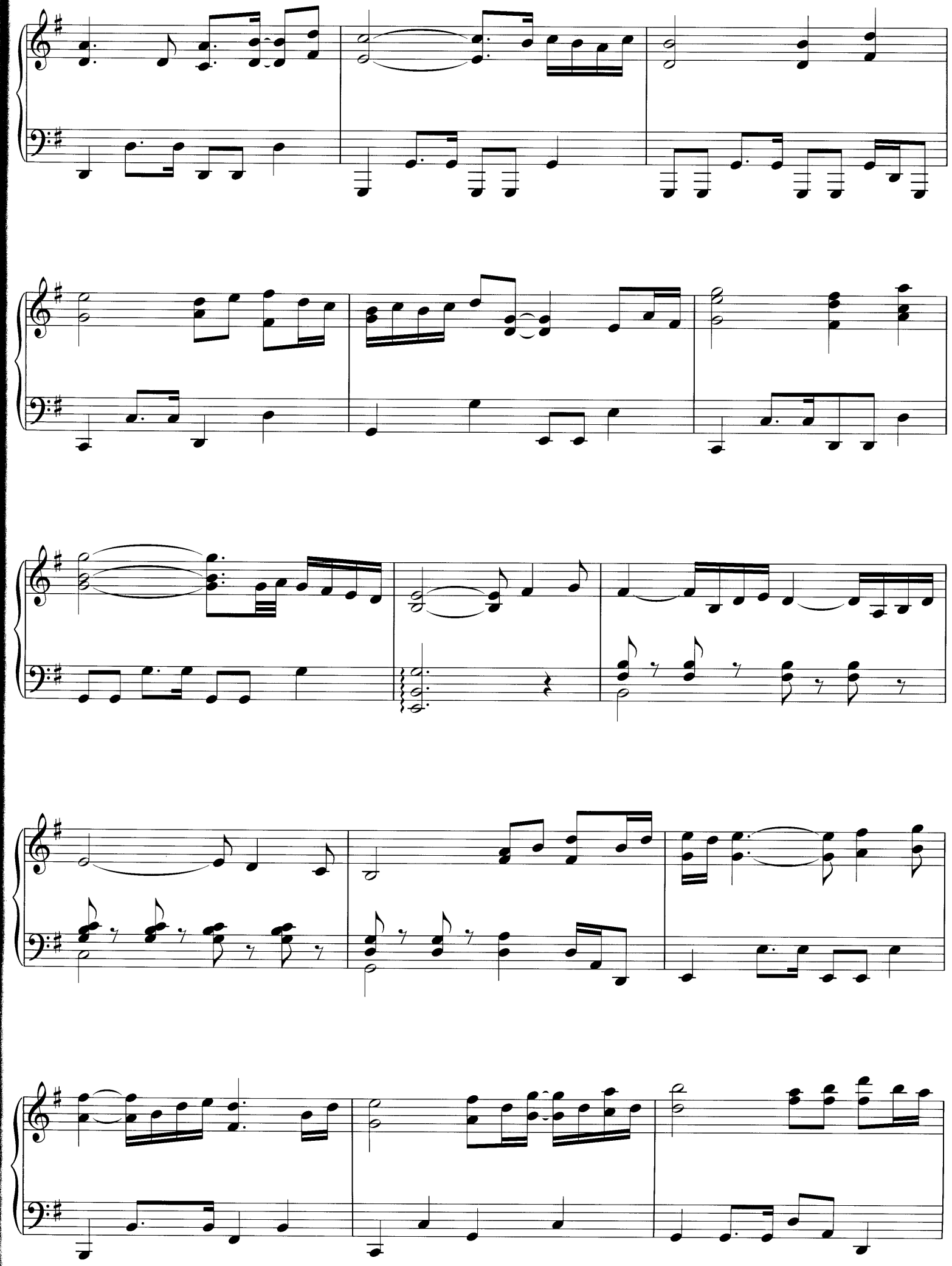
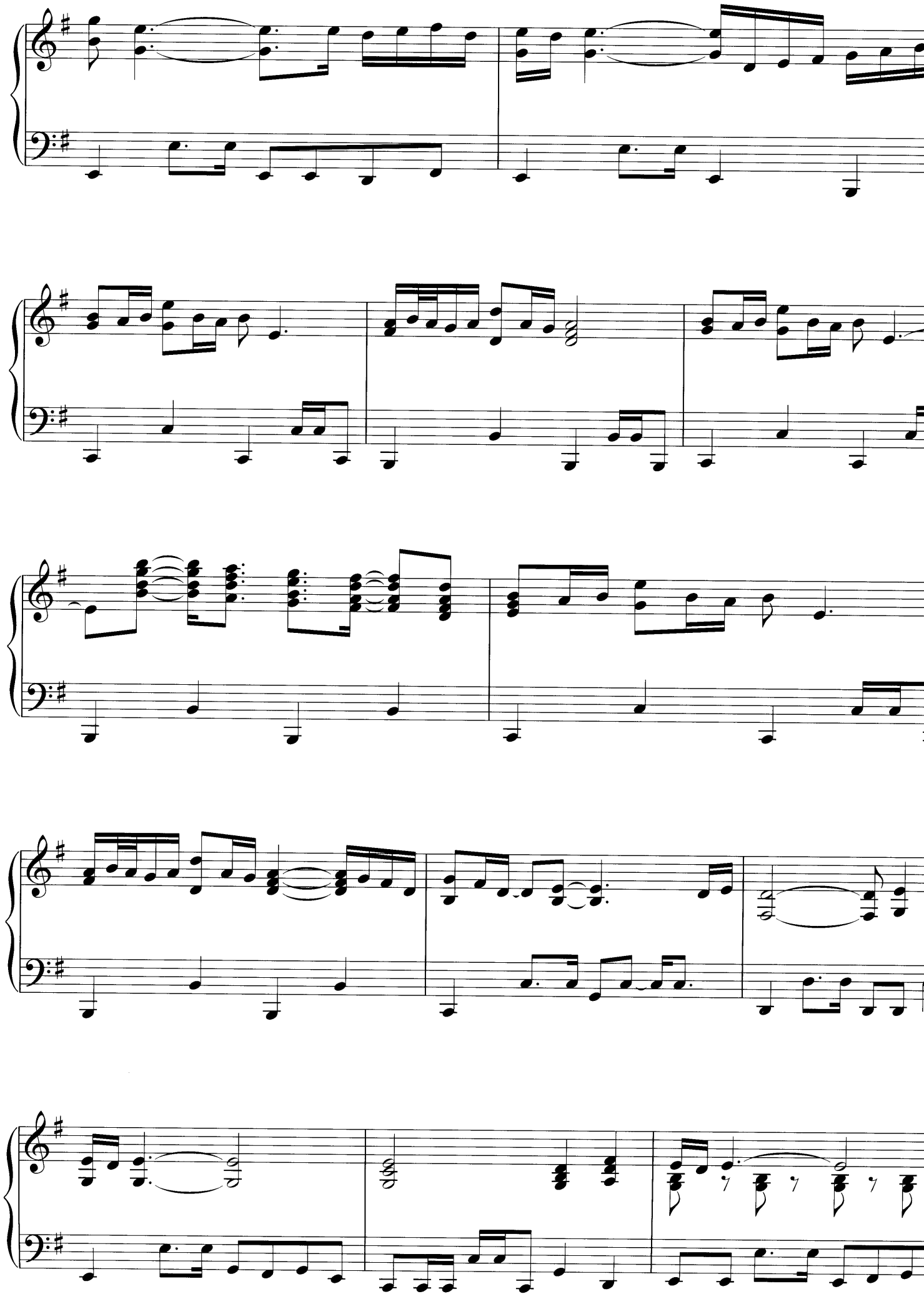
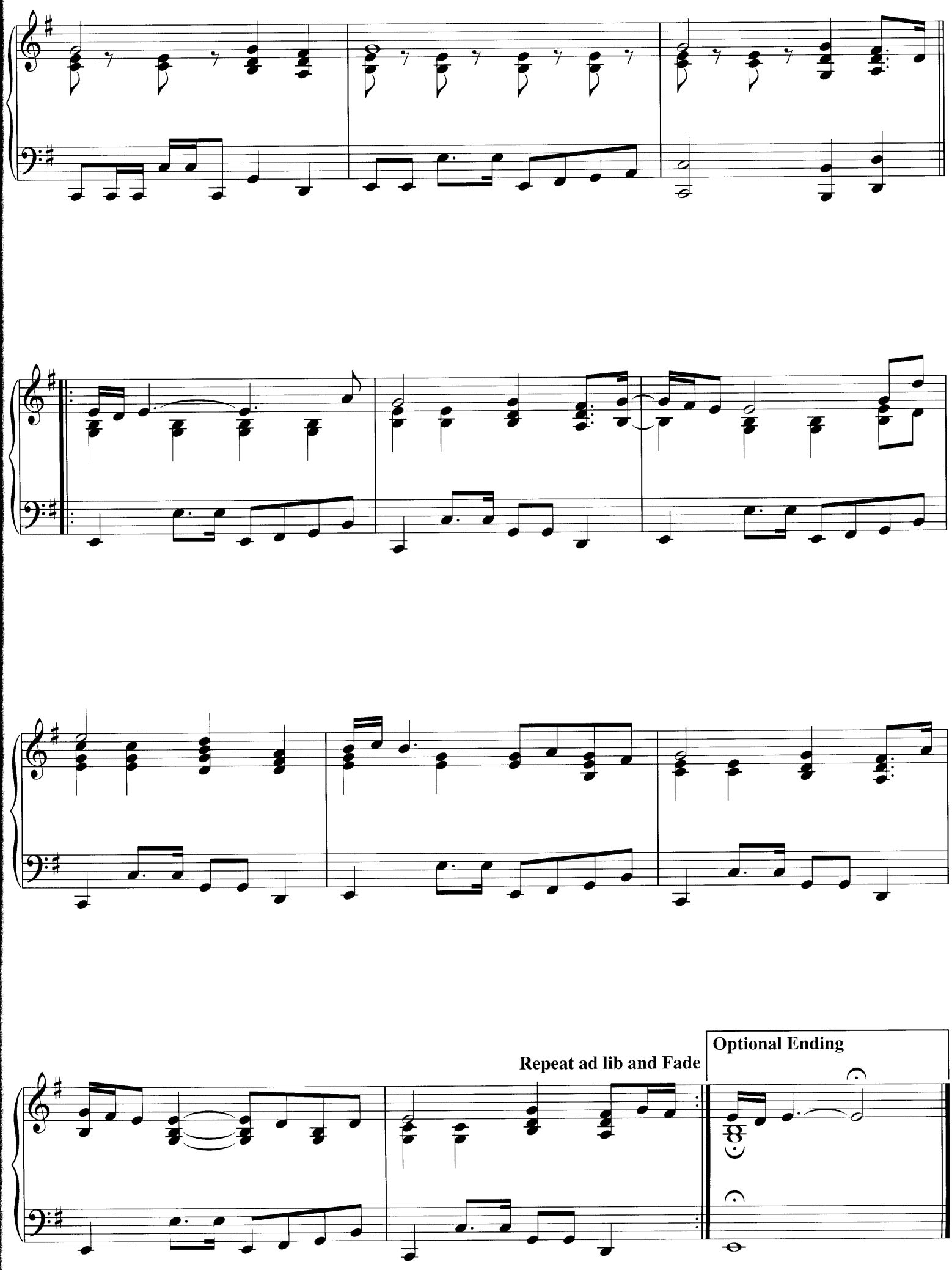



1.
2.

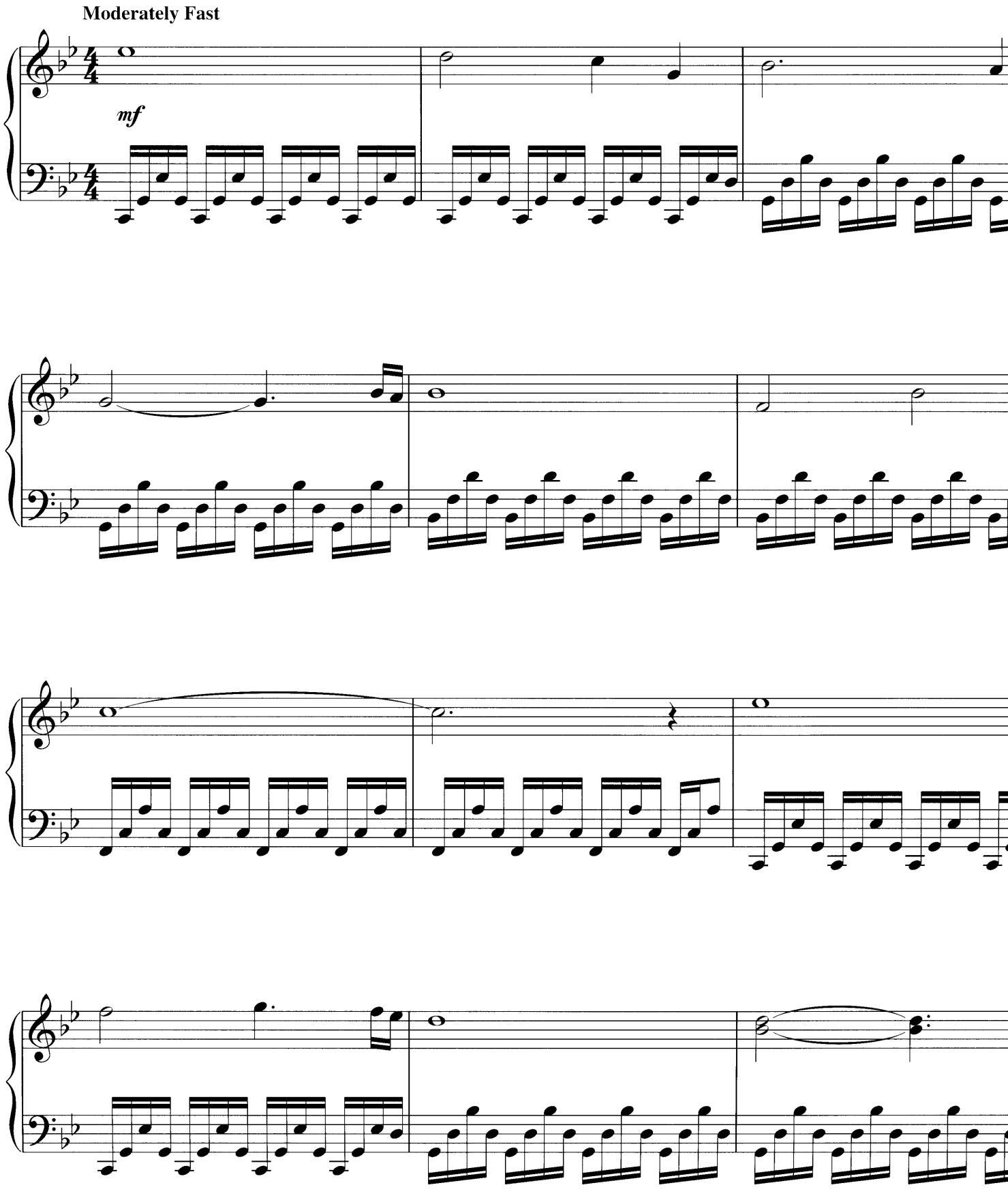





Repeat ad lib and Fade
Optional Ending

PLAY TIME

Composed by Y



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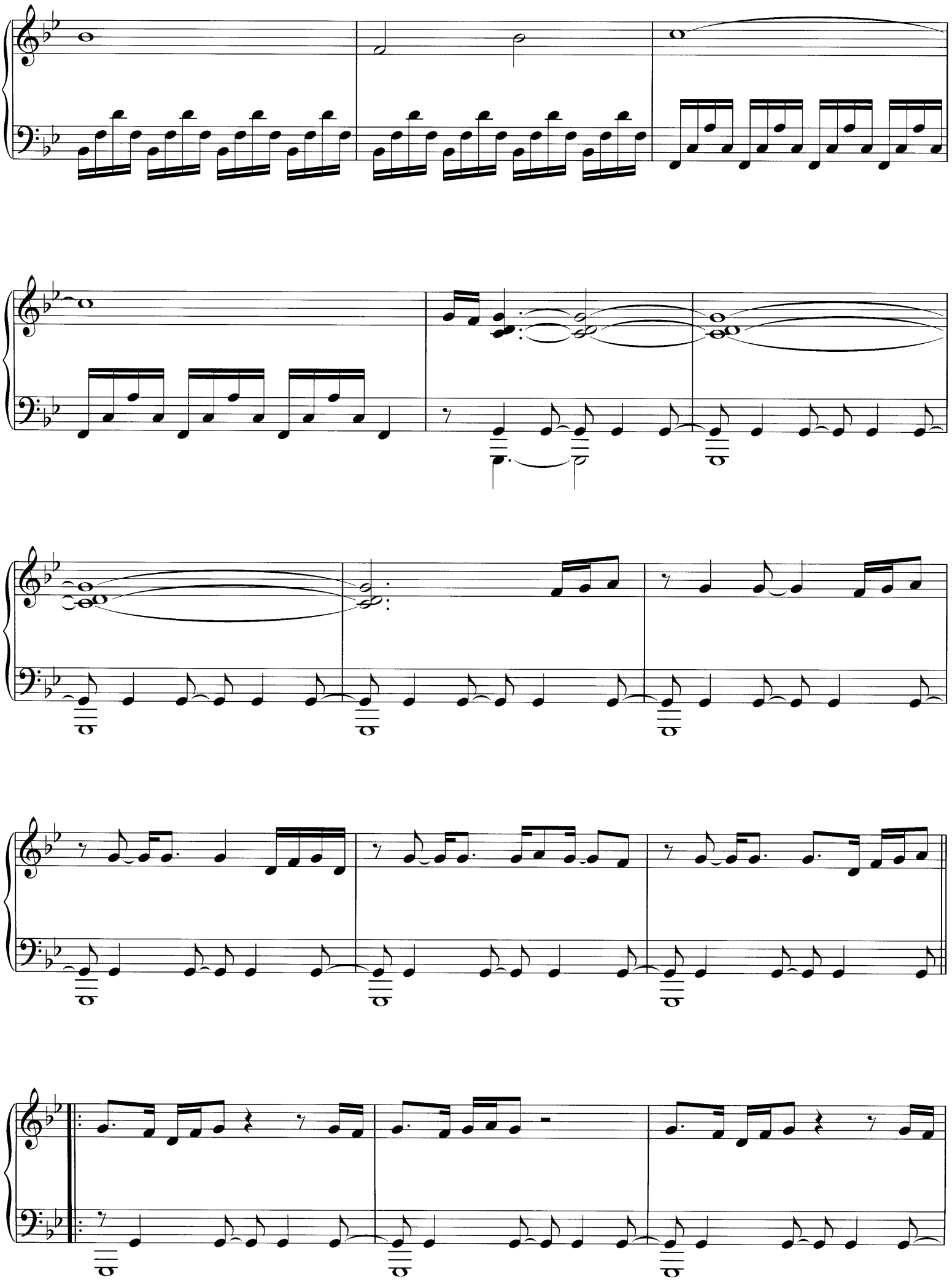
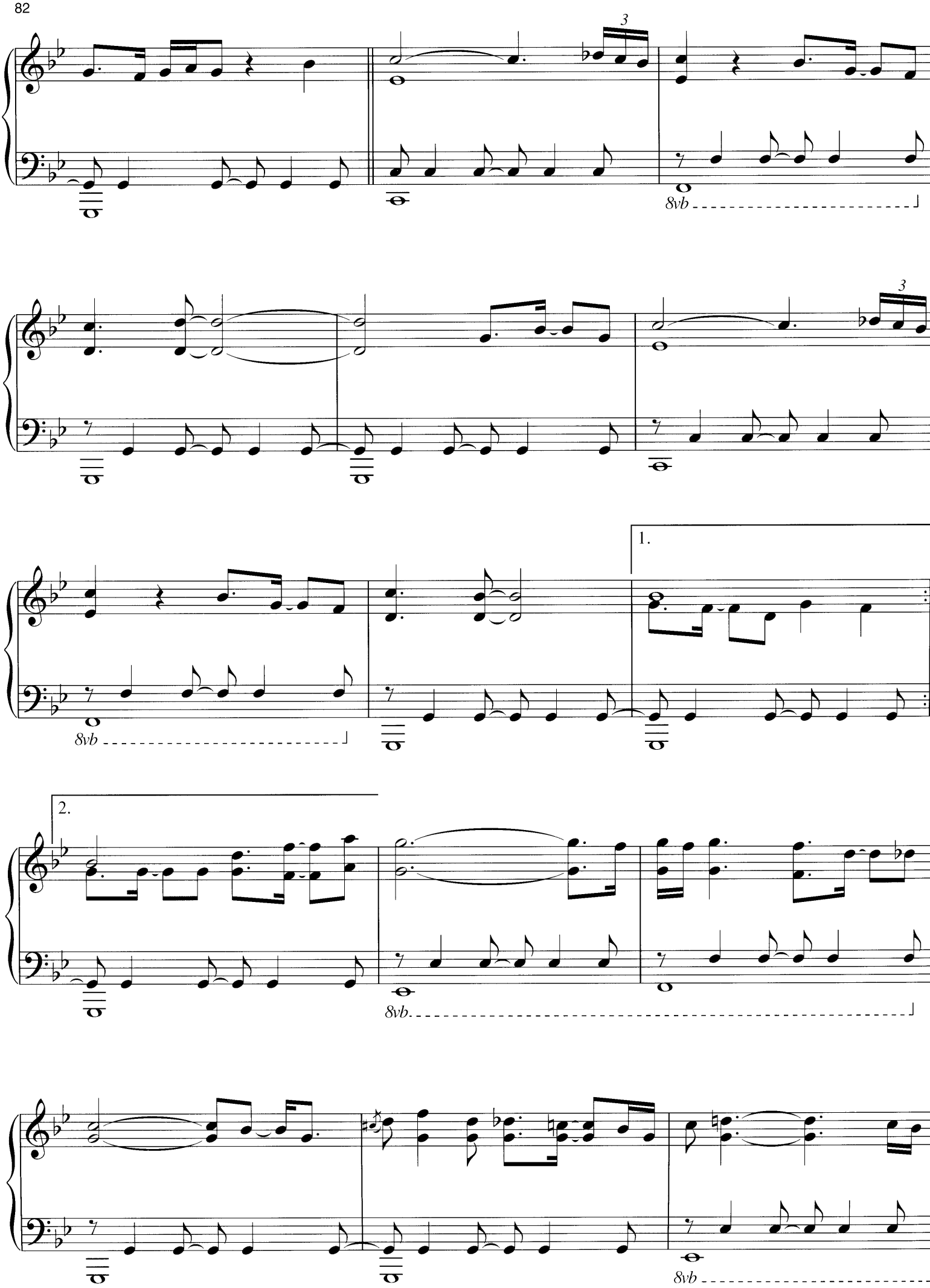
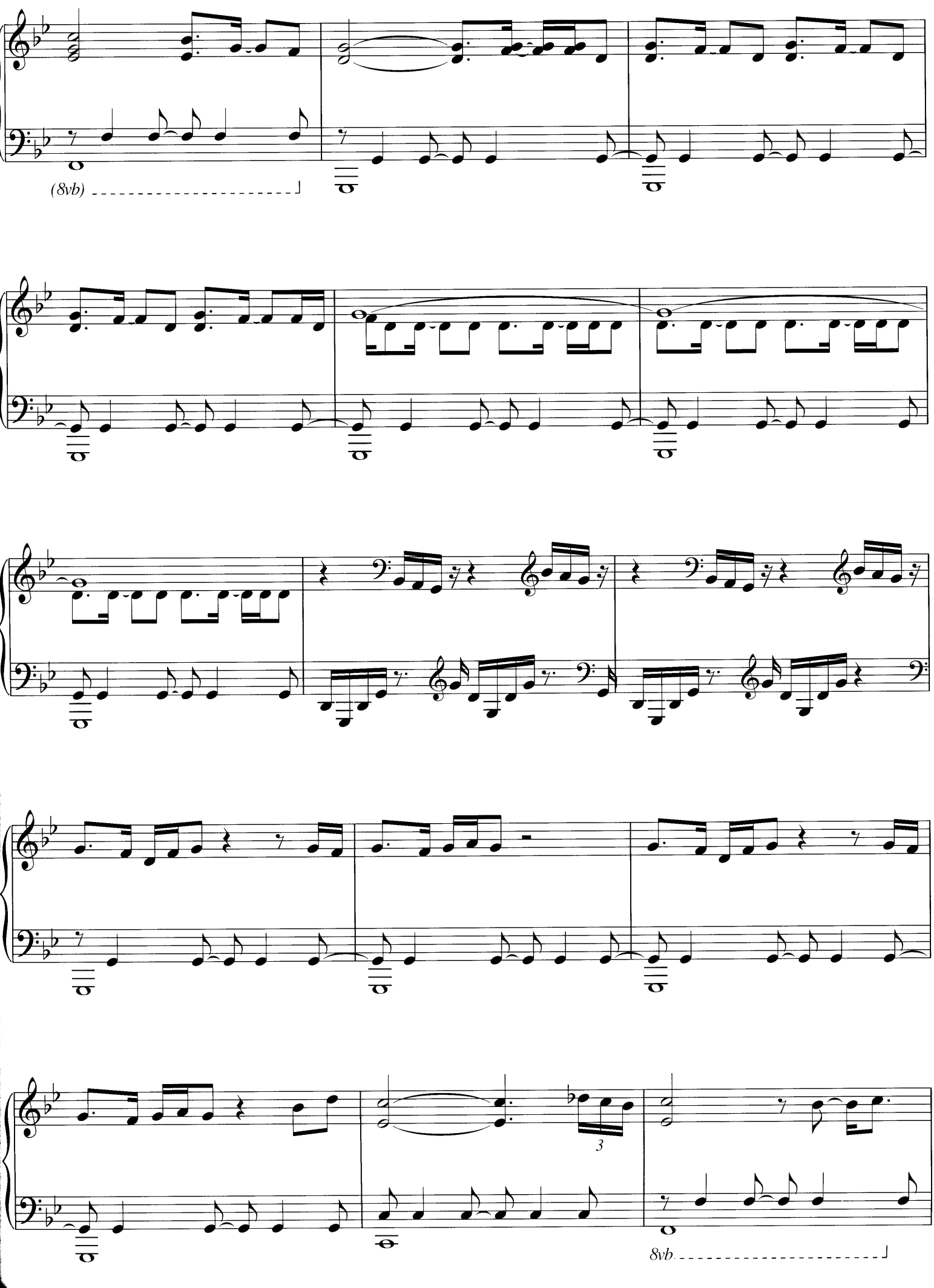
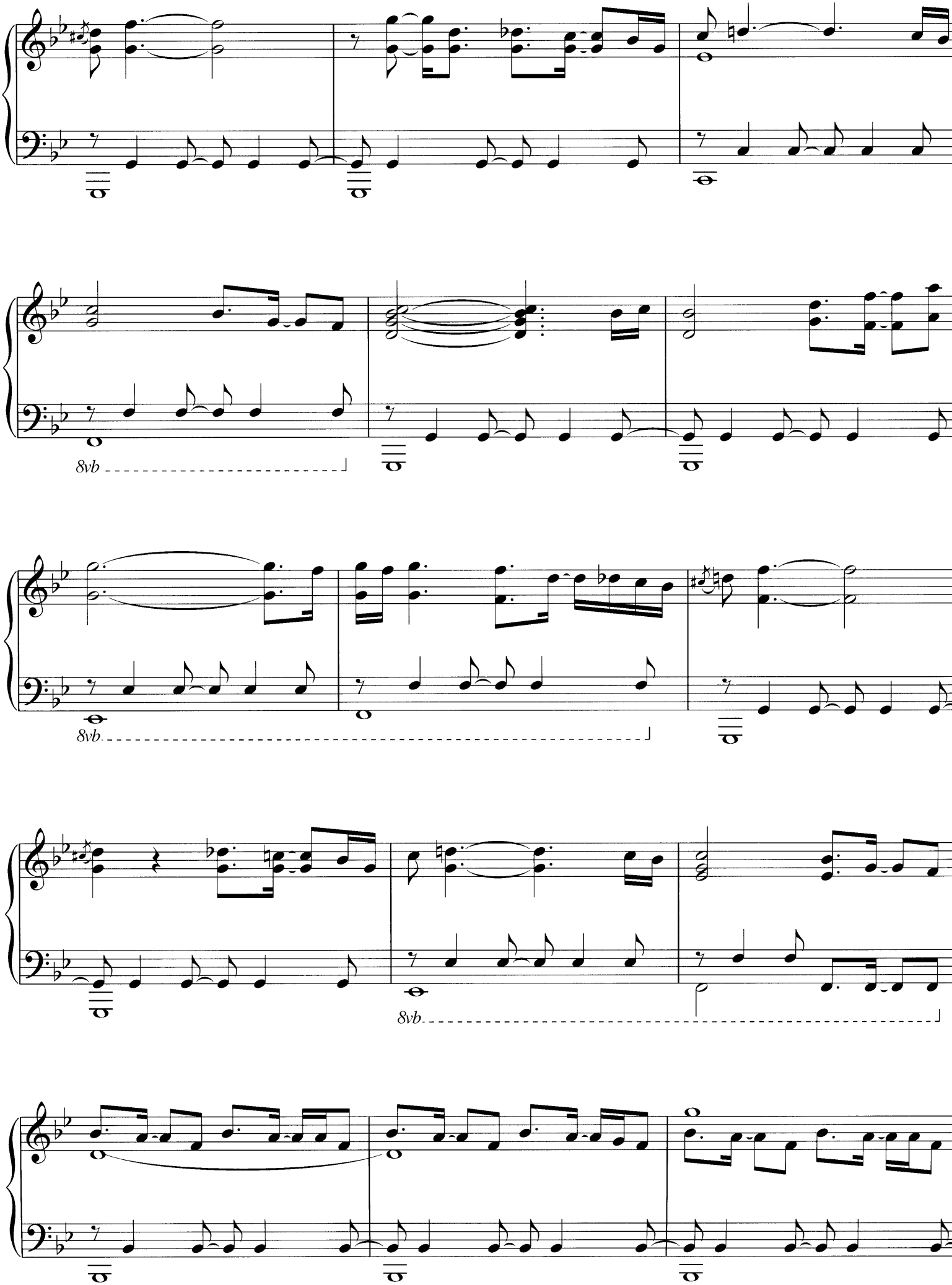



3
8vb
3
1.
8vb
2.
8vb.
8vb


(8vb)
3
8vb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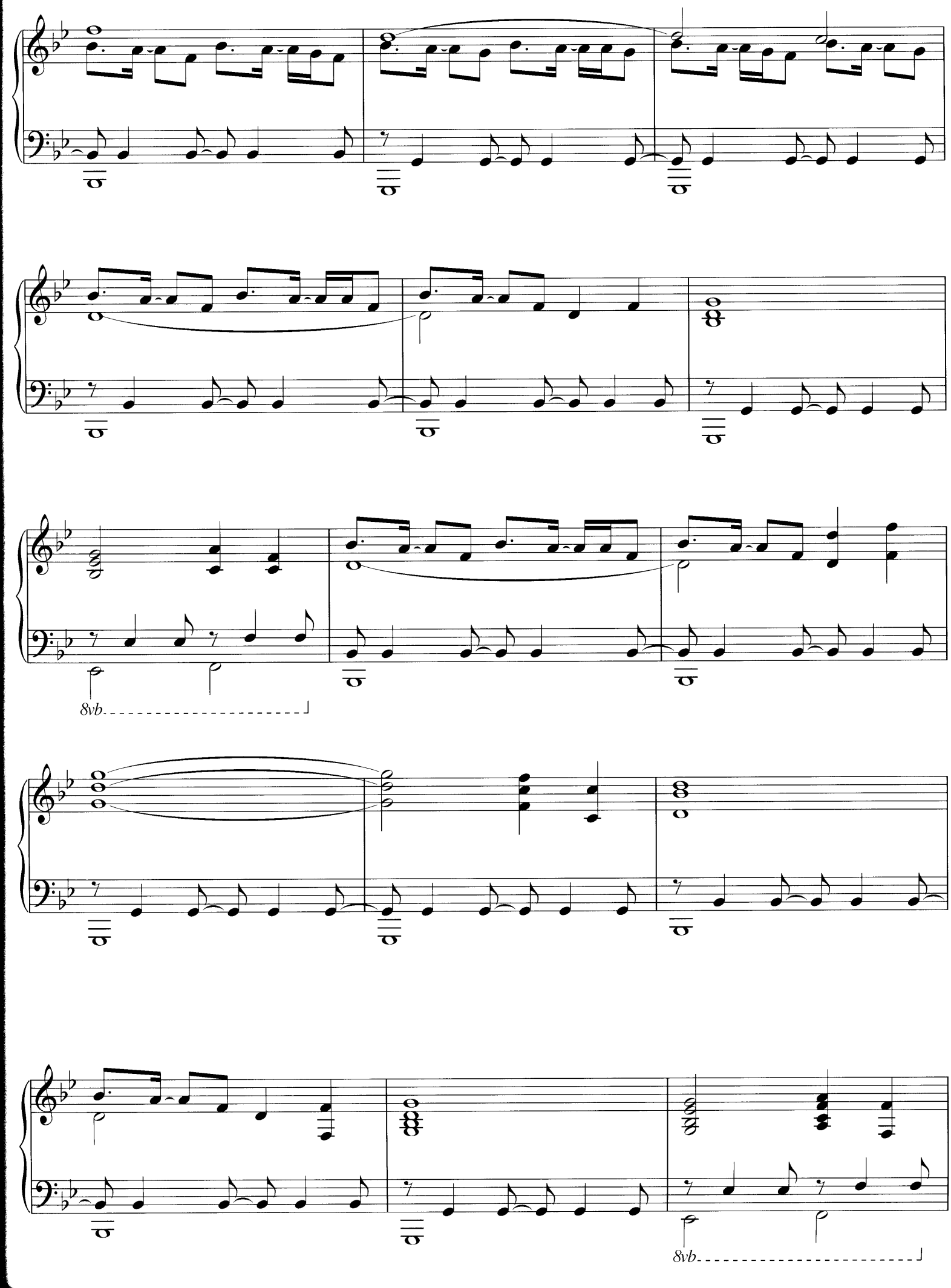
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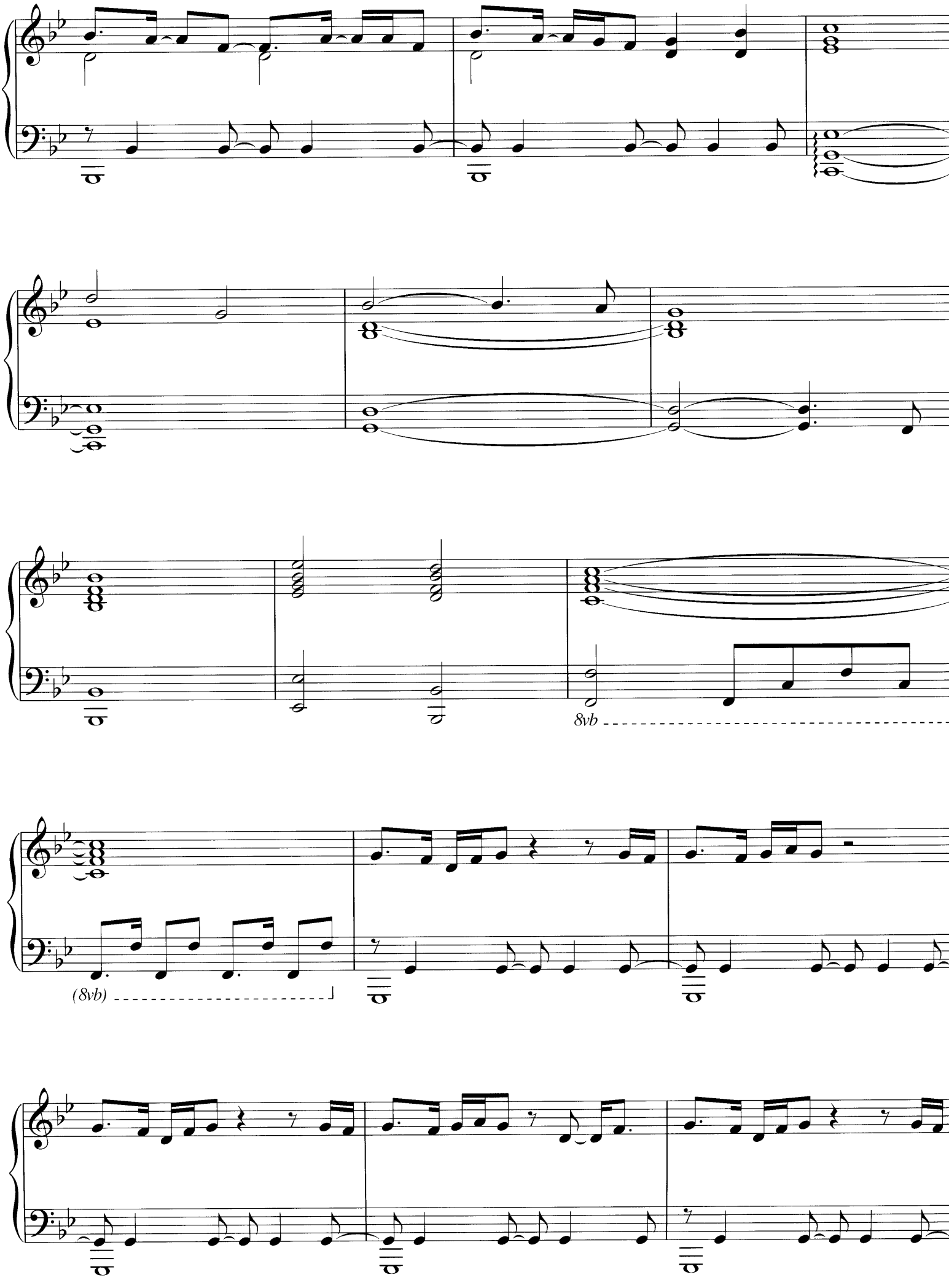
8vb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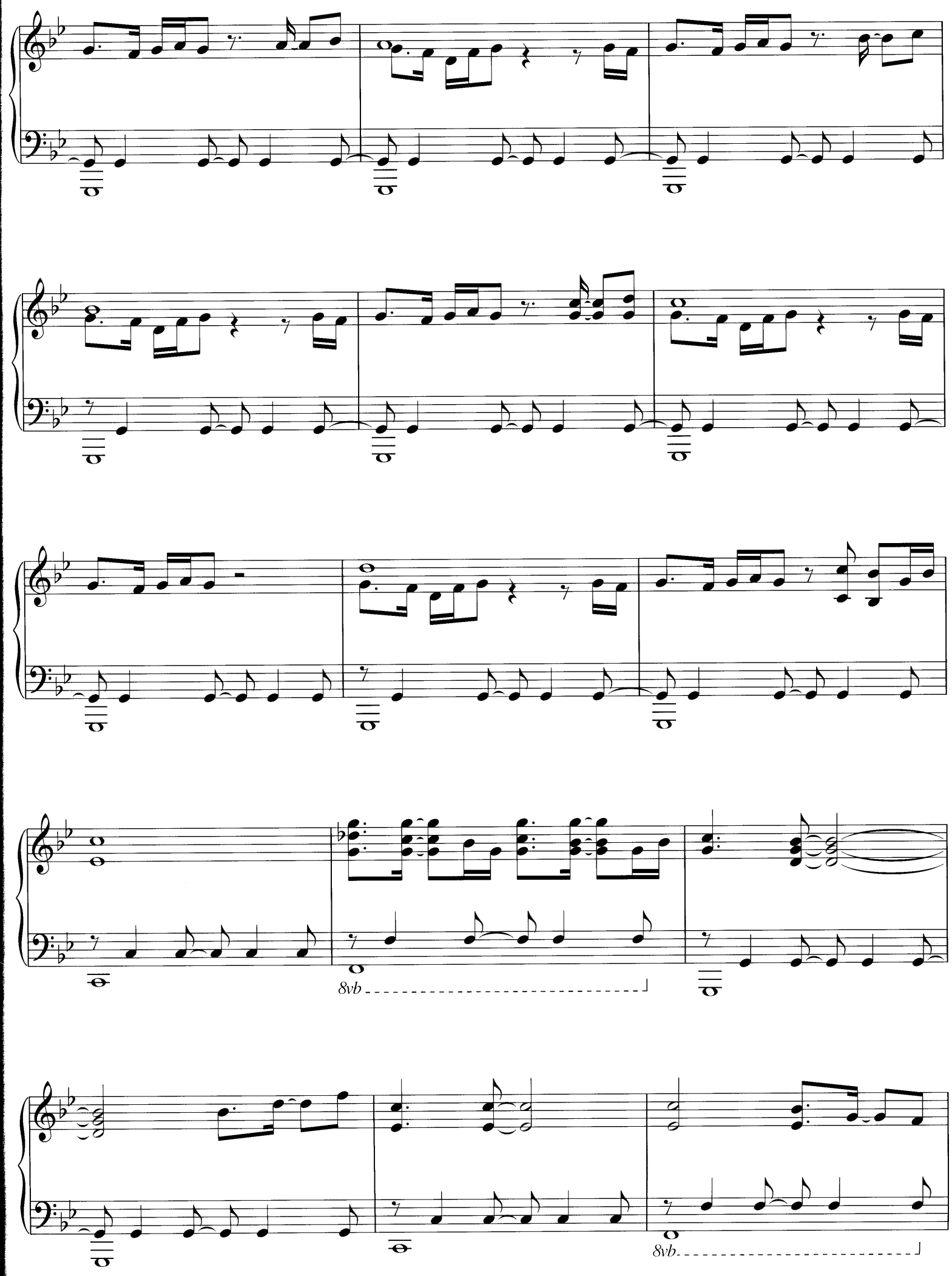
(8vb)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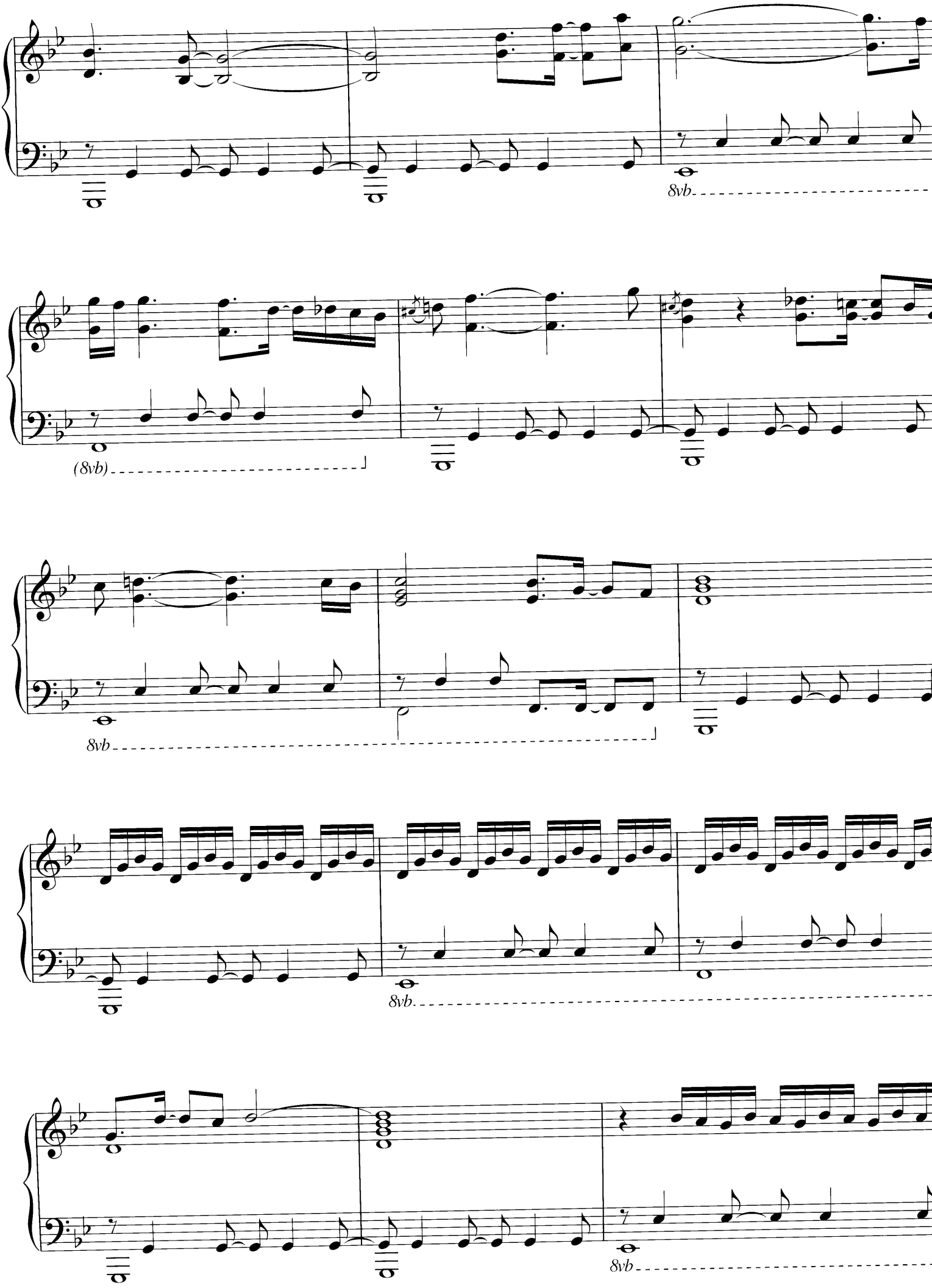
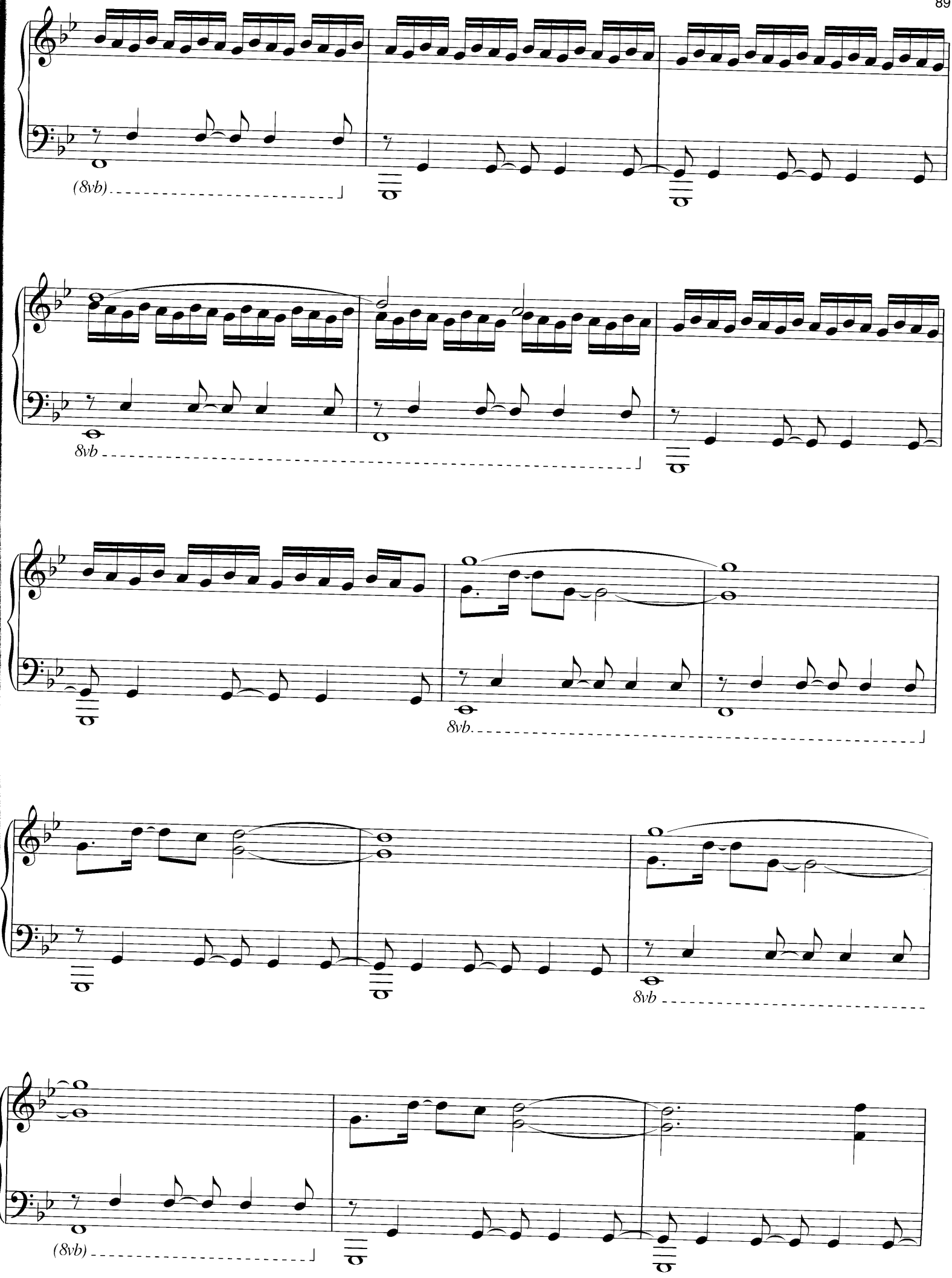
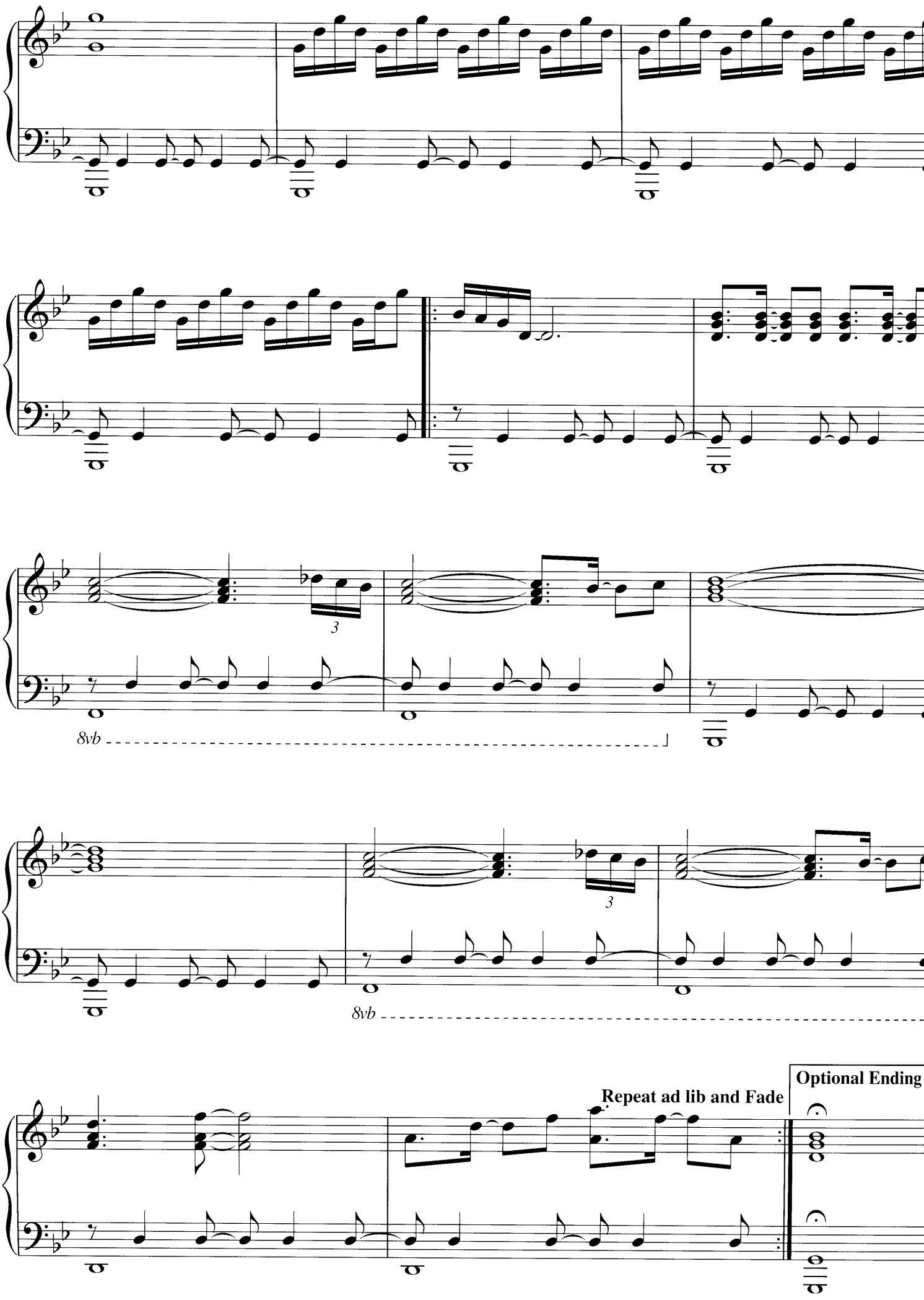
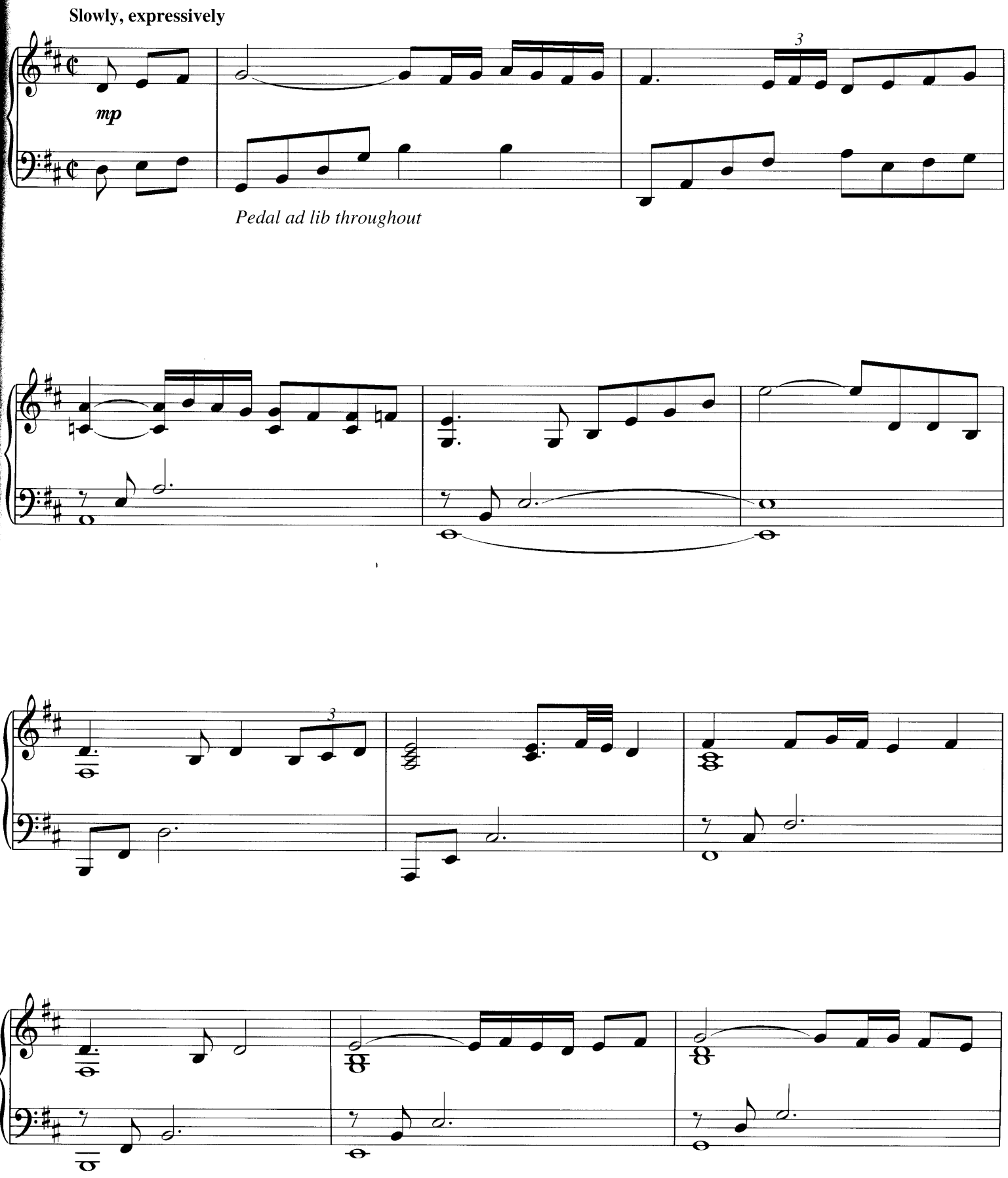

8vb
(8vb)
8vb
8vb.
8vb


(8vb)
8vb
8vb.
8vb
(8vb)


3
8vb
3
8vb
Repeat ad lib and Fade
Optional Ending

JIVAERI
(Jiva-eri)

Composed by YANNI



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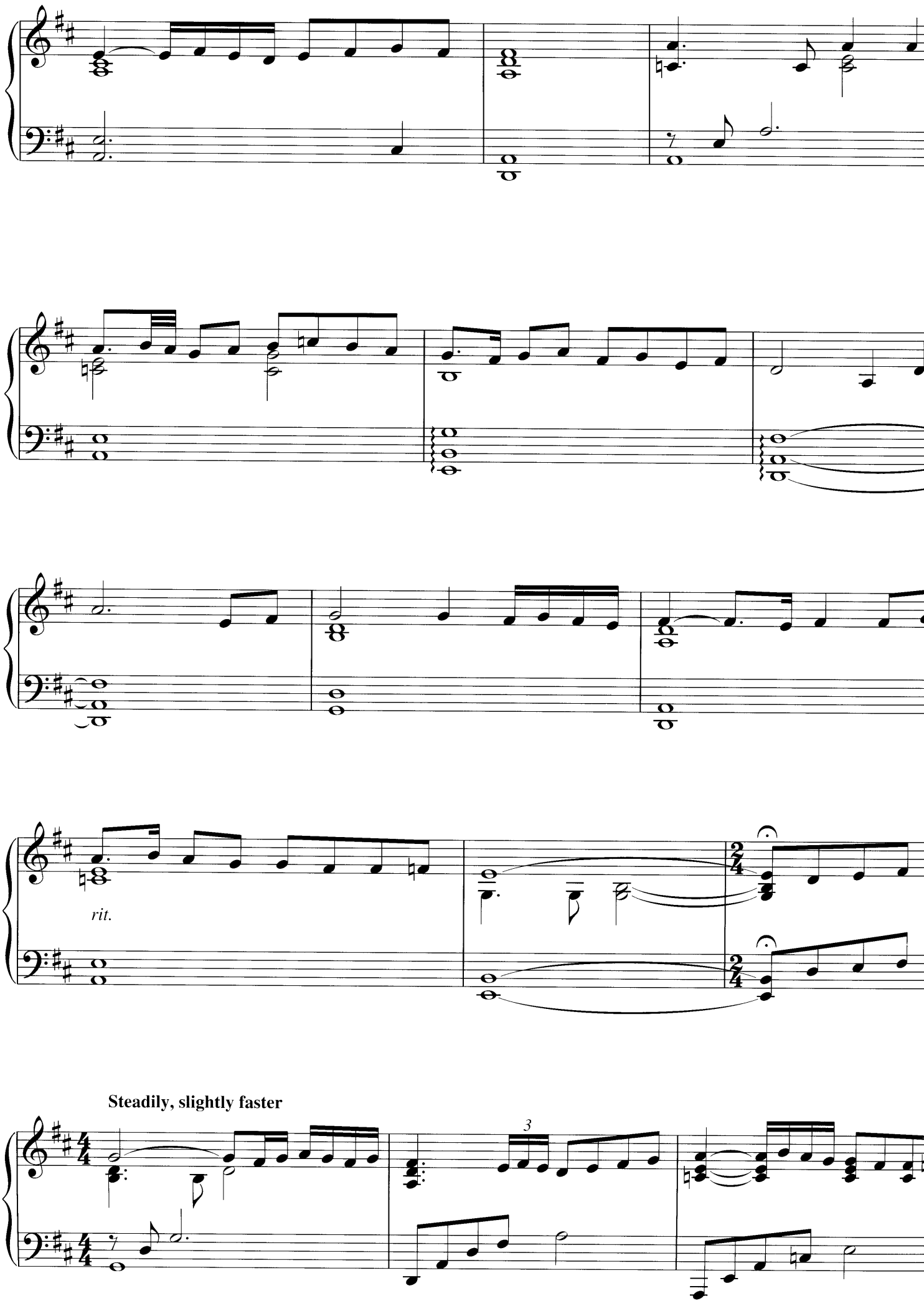
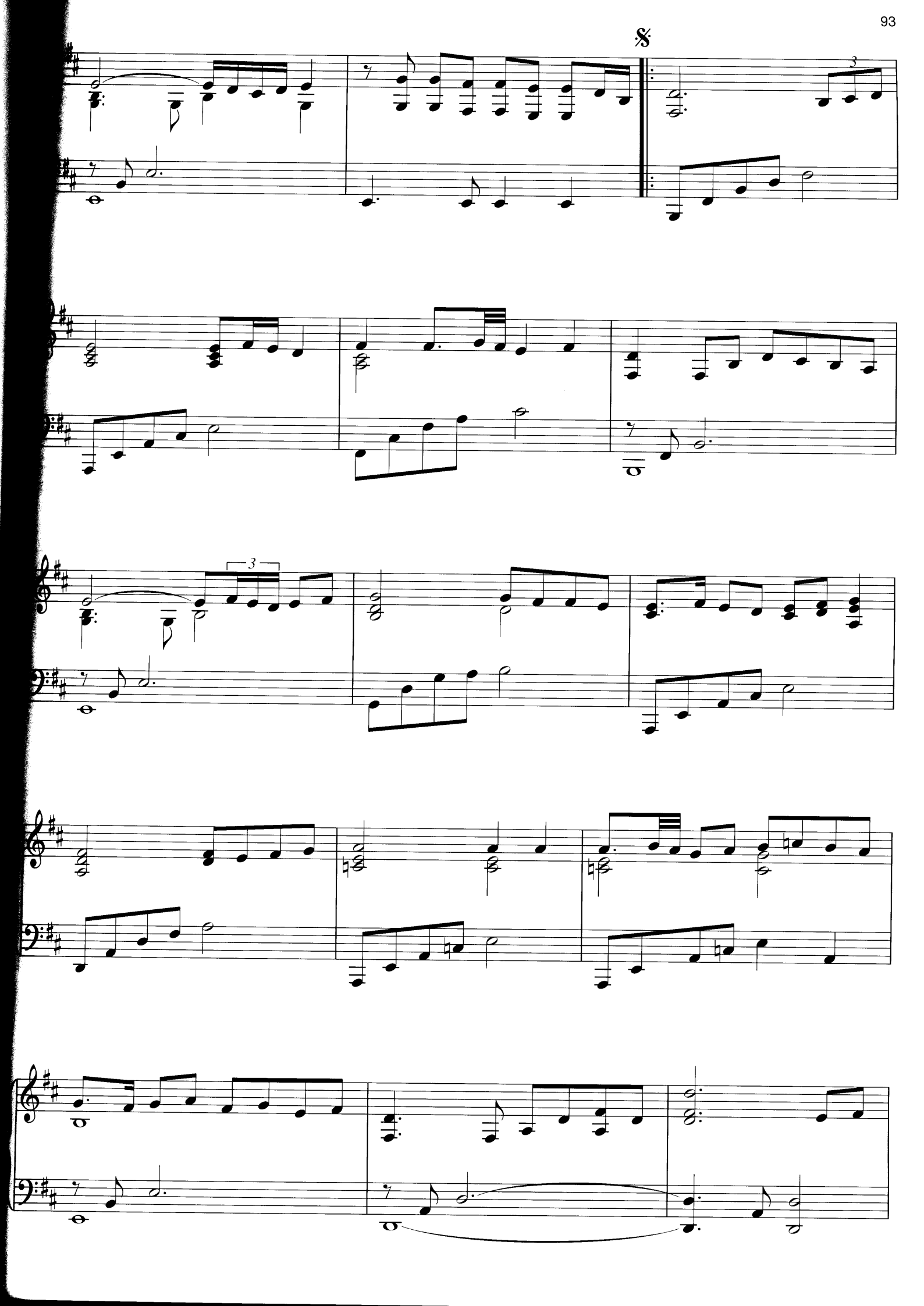
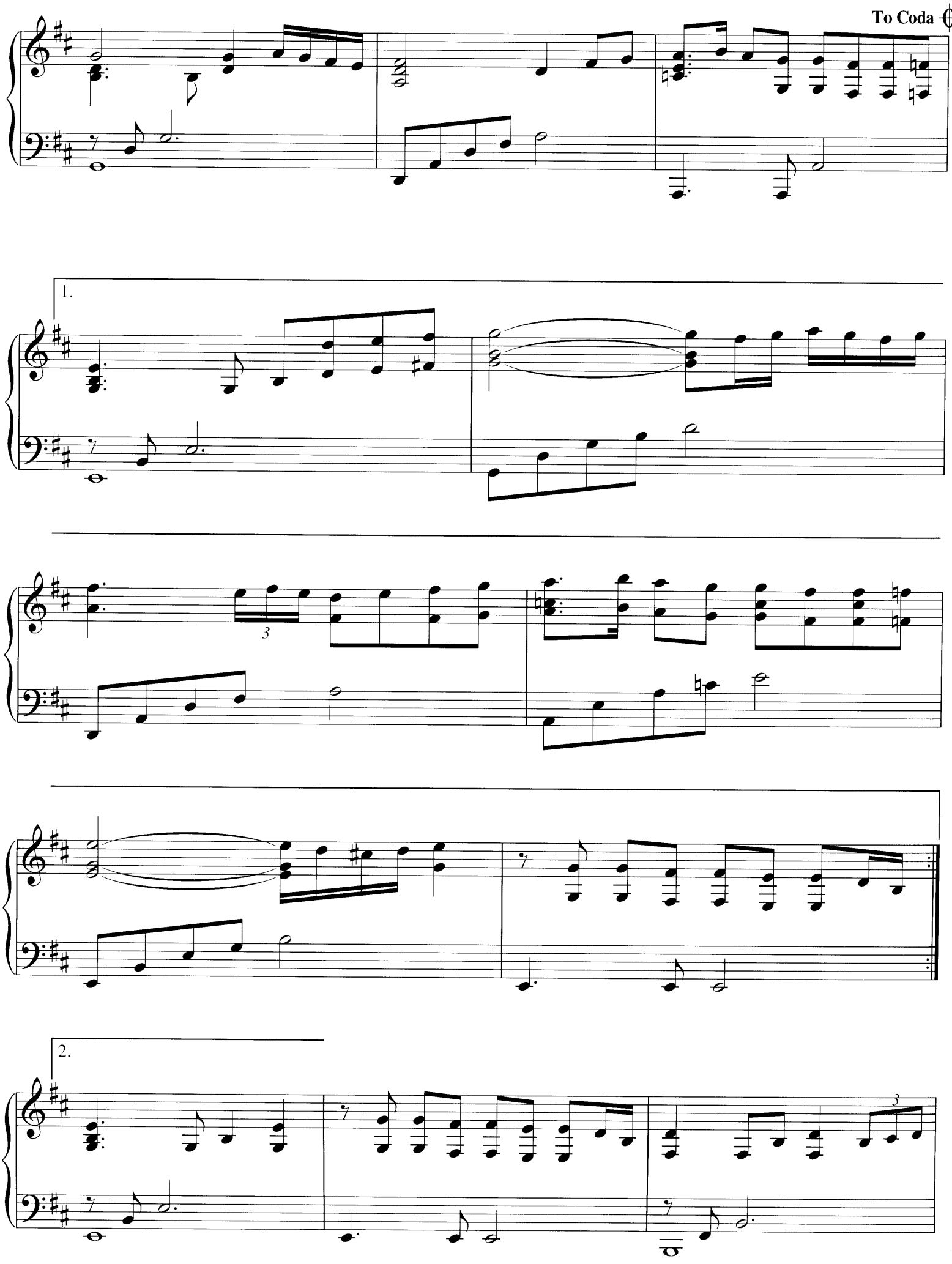
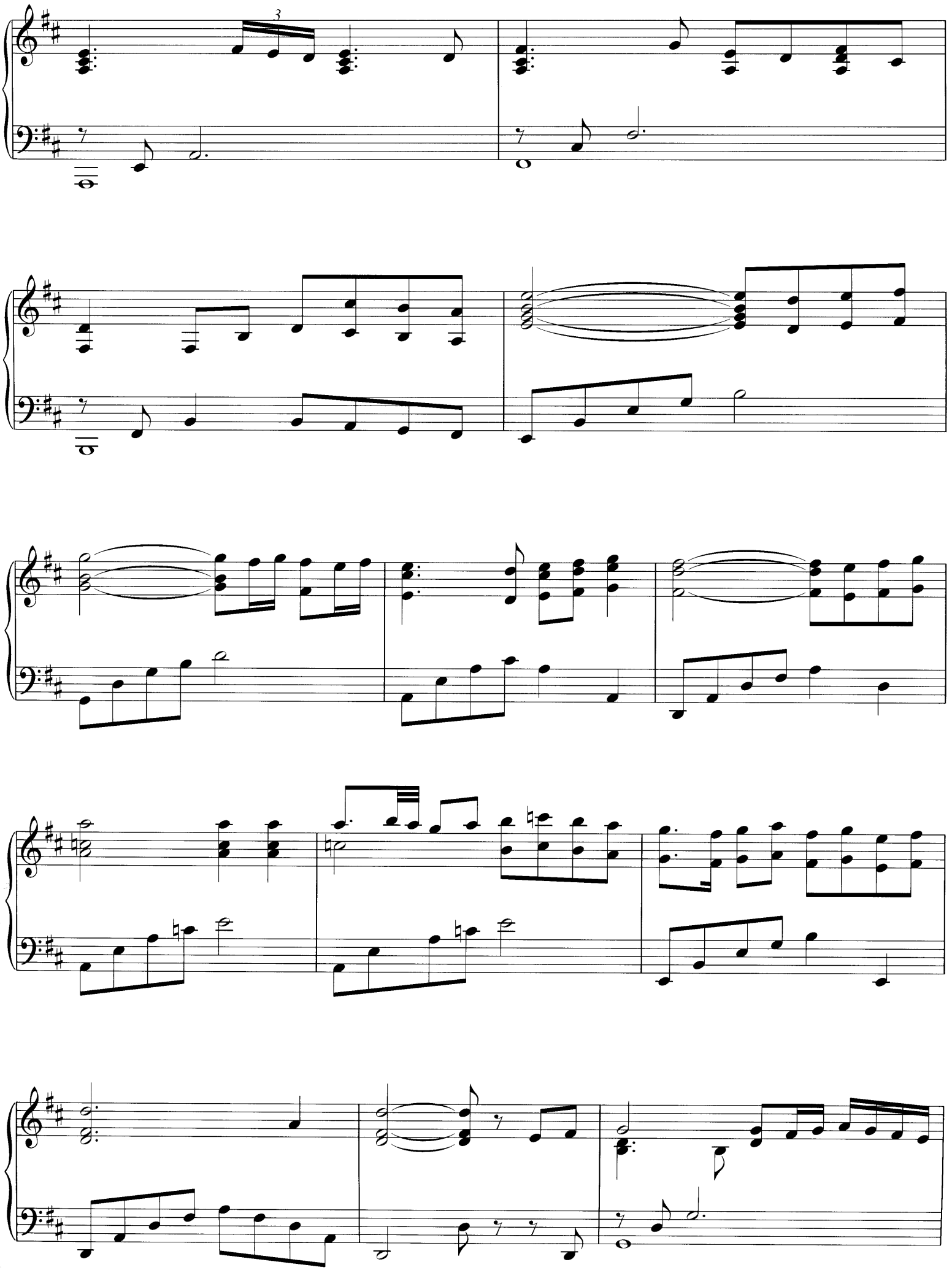
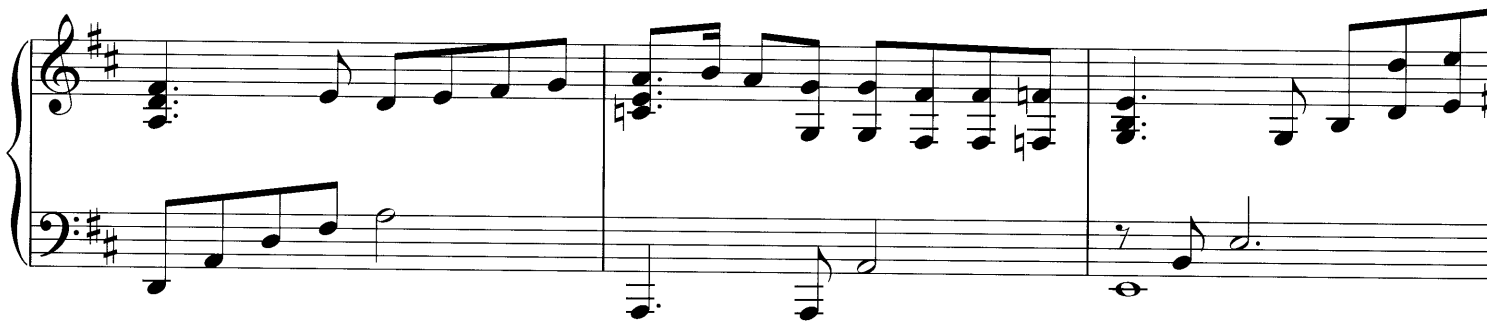
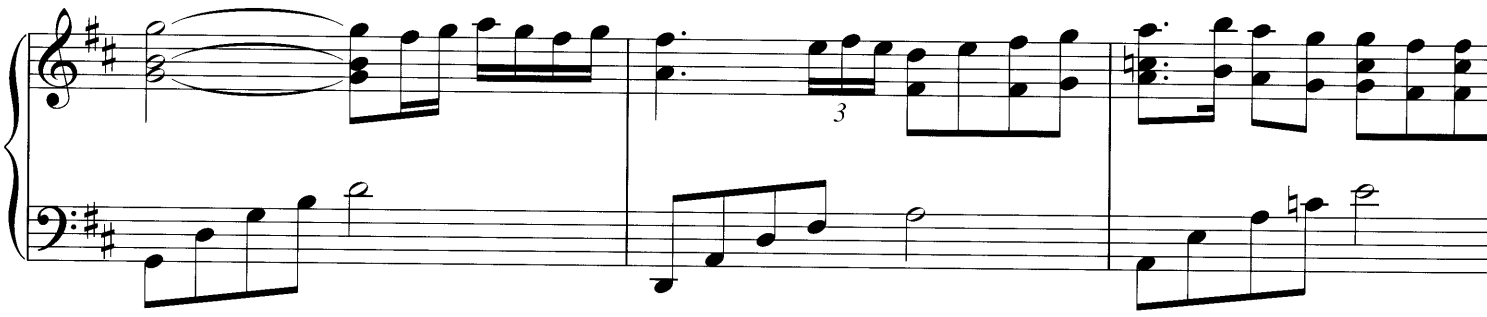

rit.
Steadily, slightly faster
3

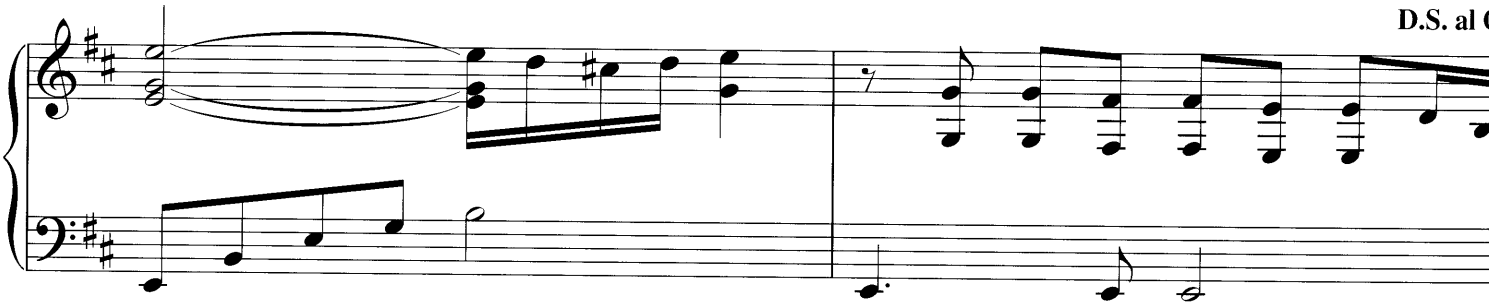



To Coda
1.
3
2.
3



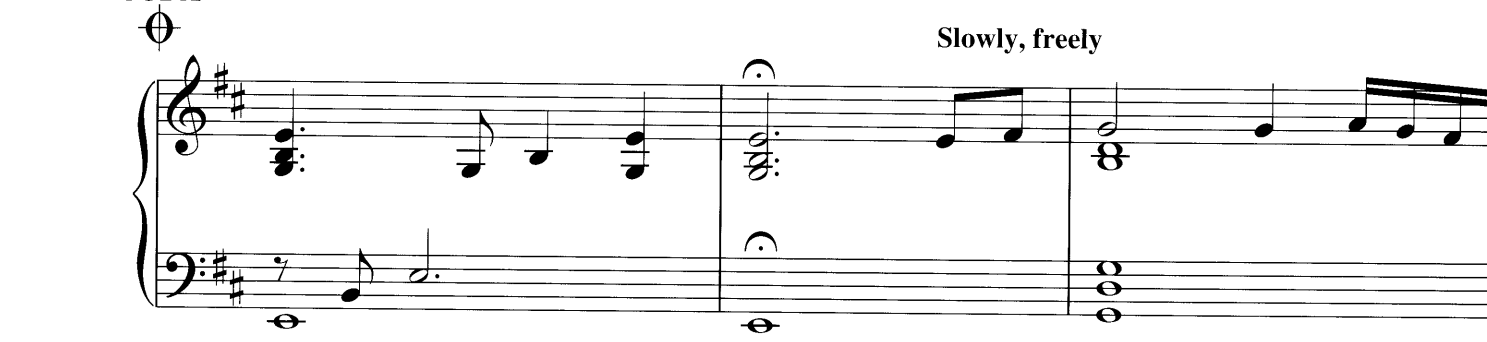


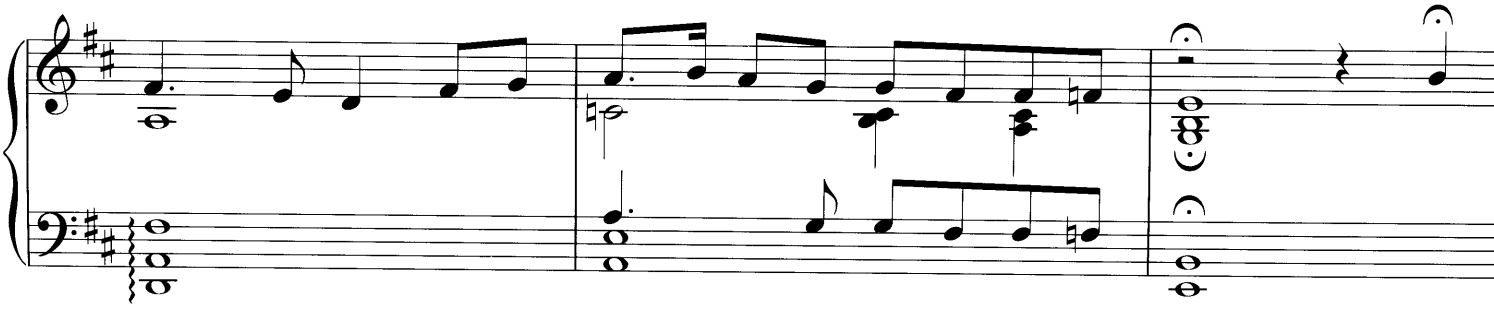


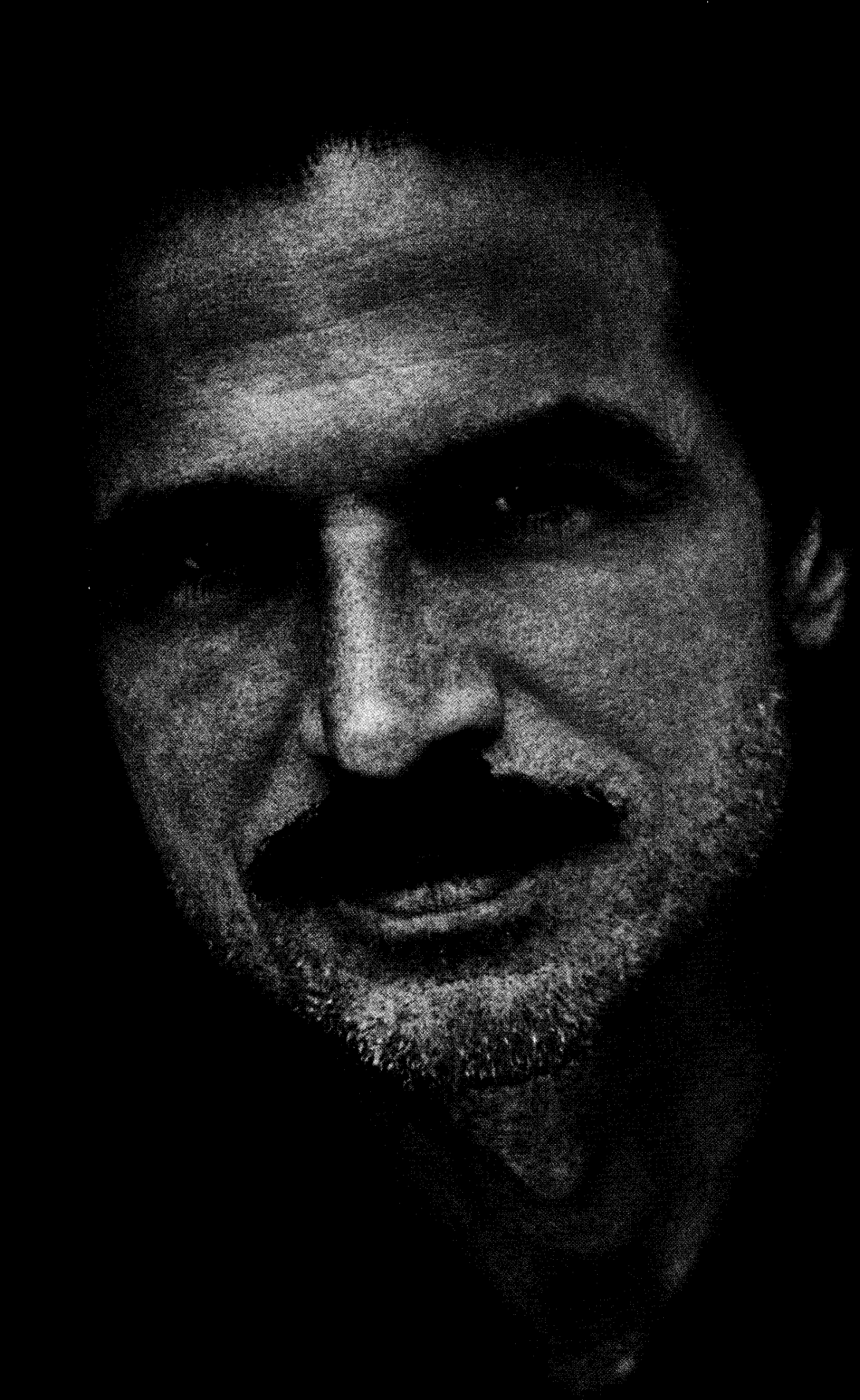


CODA

Slowly, freely







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